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Flowers (inset) lie on the kerb in Catherine Street where 30-year-old Martin Barlow was knocked down and killed by a bus earlier this month as he attempted to question the driver over damage to his truck

Picture SIMON ROBINSON

EXCLUSIVE

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

THE distraught neighbours of a Rochester man who died after being hit by a bus have given eyewitness accounts of the horrific incident.

Martin Barlow, 30, was killed when he was struck by an Arriva bus outside his home in Catherine Street shortly after 9pm on Friday, April 3.

Grieving neighbours said they are still trying to come to terms with his death and have called on Arriva to re-route buses away from their busy residential road before another life is lost.

Abigail Mack, Mr Barlow's next door neighbour, who witnessed the fatal collision, said the incident was sparked by buses damaging vehicles along the road.

The mother-of-one said: "A couple of weeks ago Martin knocked on my door and told me his parked truck had been hit by a bus and asked me to take a look."

"He said he'd called Arriva about it, but nothing had been done. It was then he mentioned the fact he wanted to stop a bus outside his house and talk to the bus driver about it."

"He was really fed up and we're all fed up with the buses."

"On the Friday evening I heard a bus come up the road and heard Martin outside as well."

"I saw him step out in front of the bus and then approach the driver's side."

"He then walked back to the front of the bus. The bus was still edging towards him, forcing

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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Picture SIMON ROBINSON

DANGEROUS: Inspectors have deemed the disused Theatre Royal building as unsafe

Outcry as theatre looks set to face the final curtain

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

WRECKING crews have begun work on partially demolishing the historic Theatre Royal.

Contractors were brought in after inspectors deemed the listed Chatham building was dangerous and needed to be made safe.

Work started on Saturday morning – much to the dismay of long-time theatre supporters who had campaigned tirelessly to see the venue restored.

Yourmedway readers have slammed the decision to pull down the building, saying more should have been done to protect and restore the High Street theatre.

Memories

Writing on our website Phil Dillon, from Chatham, wrote: "The loss of the Theatre Royal makes a mockery of the notion of responsible regeneration. A regenerated theatre would have been the jewel in Chatham's crown."

"That's real lives and memories, and cultural history and spirit they are tearing down."

Garry Jenkins, from Chatham, added: "If you read about the Medway towns' history and culture, and especially Chatham, the Theatre Royal is there, always at the heart of it, and it is a disgrace that this once magnificent

building can be left to decay like it has. Brian Damerell, from Gillingham, posted: "Is anyone really surprised the Theatre Royal is coming down?"

"Those of us with an interest in the renaissance of Chatham 'knew' that this would happen as soon as it became an obstruction."

"It could have been demolished a long time ago and parts of the fabric sold to the public."

"Thank goodness there are photographs of this unique building in the public domain."

"To declare the building unsafe now is awful. Is the bank next door unsafe yet? Will Sun Pier ever float again? Where will it all end?"

The partial demolition is expected to take five weeks to complete.

Manor Road will be closed for the duration of the work for health and safety reasons.

A Medway Council spokesman said: "In the interests of public safety, the council is closing Manor Road, Chatham, tomorrow. The road will remain closed to through traffic until demolition is completed."

"The work should have no impact on the schedule for the Chatham road improvements that include closure and demolition of the Sir John Hawkins flyover."

• **What do you think of the theatre being demolished? Let us know by emailing yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk or posting a comment on the web story at www.yourmedway.co.uk.**

yourmedway NEWS IN BRIEF

Trio jailed for stealing electrical goods at flat

THREE serial burglars have been jailed for stealing more than £1,000 of high-tech goods from a students' flat in Rochester.

Patrick Downey, 21, Ricky Worsfold, 20, and Luke May, 18, all pleaded guilty to burglary at Maidstone Crown Court on Wednesday April 8.

Downey and Worsfold, both of Chatham, were sentenced to 35 and 15 months respectively.

May, of Gillingham, was jailed for two years.

The trio struck at the student premises in Dout Way on January 16.

They forced open a rear window before stealing computer and photographic equipment worth more than £1,000.

All three men had previous convictions for theft and burglary.

New Lib Dem group leader to take over

COUNCILLOR Maureen Ruparel will take the helm as leader of Medway's Liberal Democrat group from next month.

The Gillingham North councillor will succeed Geoff Juby, who will devote his time to fighting for the open Rochester and Strood parliamentary seat at the next General Election.

Cllr Ruparel said: "Geoff has done a marvellous job and will be remaining as our finance spokesman, where he has been very effective."

Cllr Juby has stood in the Rochester and Strood area in the last two elections and has been Lib Dem group leader since 2001.

Thousands book their place in annual fun run

MORE than 2,000 charity runners have signed up to this year's Gillingham Race for Life – passing Cancer Research UK's target for the fund-raiser.

Race organisers are delighted with the uptake for the women-only run and hoped to attract the event capacity – a further 1,000 entrants.

The 5k event takes place at Capstone Farm Country Park on Sunday May 31.



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Web fight to boycott card cloning garage

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

AN ONLINE campaign warning motorists of an international card-cloning scam centring on a Medway petrol station has more than doubled in membership in just a week.

The 'Boycott Blue Bell Hill Shell - Unless You Want Your Card Cloned' group, set up on social networking site Facebook, now boasts nearly 600 members.

The card-cloners have targeted drivers making debit card payments at the Shell garage on the Chatham-bound carriageway of Blue Bell Hill.

Fraudsters

State-of-the-art technology has been used to store the cardholders' details – including their sort code, account number and Personal Identification Number (PIN) – allowing fraudsters to clone their cards within minutes.

The duplicate cards have been used at cash points as far away as India, Canada and Australia.

Writing on the group's message board, user Maggie Baxter wrote: "Someone tried to use a clone of my card in Australia – the bank refused the transaction and stopped my card."

"This was three days after I'd last used the same Shell garage on Blue Bell Hill."

"Thankfully no money stolen but it was a real pain having to wait for a new card."

"Three other people at work have had the same issue since using this petrol station and I will never use it again."

Coralie Weeden was among more than 70



Picture SIMON ROBINSON

STEER CLEAR: Card cloning scam has led to Facebook campaign to warn motorists against using Blue Bell Hill Shell garage

members whose cards have been targeted and added: "Same as everybody else, same garage, same situation. In excess of £4,000 taken."

User Garrie Owens said Shell and the police should be doing more.

He said: "What I find amazing is the garages are still open and trading. I do not accept the reassurance of Shell or the local police."

"The level of anger on the Facebook site is such that I would not be surprised if direct action to warn others would be taken against the garages unless the police and Shell are seen to take this somewhat more seriously than they are."

Detective Sergeant Dave Liffen said efforts were being made to put the fraudsters behind

bars, saying: "An investigation has begun into the compromise of payment cards with the full co-operation of the management at the service station concerned, and the relevant financial institutions."

A Shell spokesman added: "The security of customer transactions is Shell's primary concern. For us every instance of card fraud is one too many."

"Shell has been supportive of the police and the card service provider in their ongoing investigations into this serious form of organised crime and identity theft."

"Any reports of fraudulent activity are immediately followed up by Shell's own investigators, as well as the police and the card service provider."

'Neighbours saw man go under bus'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

him to walk backwards. It was then he just disappeared. A number of neighbours saw him go under the bus."

Another neighbour, who did not wish to be named, added: "I heard a commotion outside our house and went out to see what was going on."

"I saw Martin in front of the bus. He had previously mentioned to me he wanted to take the driver's keys and talk about the damage to his 4x4. He then got knocked over by the bus."

A man in his 40s was arrested in connection with the incident and released on bail while police interview witnesses.

A police spokesman said the fatality was being investigated by the Serious Collision Investigation Unit.

Arriva representatives and Medway police met residents and local ward councillors at a Police and Communities Together meeting.

An Arriva spokesman said: "Following the tragic incident on April 3, an Arriva representative attended a meeting with the police, councillors and local residents, but it's too early to say what the outcome might be in respect of suggested changes to bus routes."

Labour big names on hand to fly red flag at South East conference

RED rosettes were out in force in Medway at the weekend – with Labour's annual South East conference helping to draw four party heavyweights to the towns in the same day.

Former deputy party leader John Prescott, his replacement Harriet Harman and cabinet members Ed Miliband and Caroline Flint all visited Medway on Saturday.

Energy and Climate Change Minister Ed Miliband was the first to arrive, meeting science students studying at the University of Greenwich at Medway Chatham Maritime campus.

Mr Miliband – who will have a large say in whether the controversial plans for a new coal-fired power plant at Kingsnorth will be given the go ahead – was shown how scientists at the university are developing green technology in a bid to lower the country's carbon footprint.

The green theme was continued by Labour's Minister for Europe Caroline Flint, who joined forces with

Gillingham and Rainham Labour MP Paul Clark and residents in the north of Gillingham – backing their campaign to turn Queen Elizabeth Field into a green and safe community space.

Mrs Flint was joined by Glenis Willmott MEP, Leader of the European Parliamentary Labour Party, who said she was impressed with the plans to transform the former chalk pit and tip into an attractive community space.

The project will cost £3 million, money Mrs Willmott said was worth spending.

Deputy leader Harriet Harman and her predecessor John Prescott were the last leading Labour figures to visit Medway, taking in the party's South East conference held at Gillingham FC's Priestfield Stadium.

Postal workers gathered outside in protest at Government plans to partly privatise the Royal Mail.

Trade union leaders said their views had been well received by Labour members.

Police duo guilty of assault charge

TWO Medway police officers were sentenced after being found guilty of assaulting an innocent man arrested on suspicion of robbery.

Police Sergeant Oliver Tingley and PC Luke Barlow were arrested last August after the suspect – who was released without charge – lodged a complaint against the pair, accusing them of mistreating him during his arrest.

The officers were immediately suspended from duty and subsequently charged with common assault by beating.

Both men pleaded their innocence to the charges but were found guilty at Sittinbourne Magistrates Court.

Tingley was sentenced to 90 days imprisonment while Barlow was ordered to carry out 300 hours community service and pay £300 costs.

The guilty officers now face a disciplinary hearing conducted by Kent Police's Professional Standards Department.

Power staff win British jobs fight

SKILLED tradesmen embroiled in a "British jobs for British workers" row at Grain power plant have won a small victory in their battle for employment.

Following pressure from trade unions Unite and the GMB, two Polish subcontractors helping to build a new gas-fired power station on the Isle of Grain have finally agreed to take on unemployed locals.

Remak and ZRE Katowice will employ between eight and ten British workers from May 5, with the unions hoping extra positions will soon become available.

Neil Willoughby, regional officer for Unite, said: "It's a small start but hopefully the acorn will grow into an oak tree because we will be lobbying for a much larger number."

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Search for gang of six after alleged assault outside pub

POLICE are appealing for witnesses to come forward after three men were assaulted near a Hempstead pub.

The incident took place outside The Flying Saucer in Hempstead Road at midnight on Sunday March 22.

The three men were assaulted following a dispute with six men.

Police are keen to trace the ringleader, who is white, 22-years-old, 6ft tall, of medium build, with black gelled hair and wearing a yellow top with black trousers.

Witnesses should police on 01634 792434 or CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111.

Drivers wrong to take a 'no right' turn at junction

MOTORISTS are flouting the law at two busy Rochester junctions, according to police.

Drivers are ignoring 'no right turn' signs at the Victoria Street and High Street junctions by taking an illegal short cut up Star Hill.

Police have warned road users they face a £30 fine if caught breaking the law.

A force spokesman said: "The manoeuvre causes problems for both fellow motorists and pedestrians using the crossings on Star Hill. Anyone caught faces a £30 fine."

New road 'stencils' to help school children stay safe

FORTY new road stencil designs on the road will help school children stay safe while walking in streets near their schools.

Medway Council launched two designs, stencilled using a powerful jet of water; the first is a walking bus that marks the 31 existing walking routes and a school crossing patrol area.

Medway Council's safer journeys officer James Sutton said: "We would like to hear how many stencils school children have found and also what they think of the idea."

Time capsule burial part of Bluewater's 10th birthday

BLUEWATER continued its tenth birthday celebrations yesterday by planting ten trees, a time capsule and naming its lakes.

A ceremony was held to bury a time capsule from Riverview Primary School, Gravesend, near to where the first block of the centre was laid.

Medieval wall challenges ideas of how city looked

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

A SECOND historic wall has been unearthed on a building site near Restoration House in Rochester.

The wall was discovered by archaeologists underneath the Century Buildings development site, off Victoria Street.

It is thought the structure – which pre-dates the Tudor wall partially destroyed by developers on a site bordering Restoration House – could date back more than 500 years.

Leading archaeologist Dr Peter Rumley, who advises the National Trust, said the wall challenges ideas of how Rochester looked in medieval times.

He said: "This is a very exciting find. Medway Council and Kent County Council should carry out a thorough investigation, so the historic importance of the new discoveries can be properly assessed.

"This is not just a boundary wall. It's massive and looks as if it could be a defensive structure beyond the old city wall.

"I believe it could relate to a high-status house in Crow Lane which existed before Restoration House was built. It may have occupied the same site and that of houses next to it.

"A thorough archaeological investigation is essential to prevent further damage to such an important historic city as Rochester."

Dr Rumley said he thought the two walls – while constructed hundreds of years apart – could have served a similar purpose.

He said: "The Tudor wall may have formed a



REVEALED: The Tudor wall partially destroyed by developers, which may have been part of defences beyond the old city wall

backdrop to prestigious gardens that swept down towards the River Medway, offering a grand vista to people arriving by water.

"The latest discovery, while being a defence structure, could also have provided a raised walkway linking that part of the gardens with those that have already been restored by the owners of Restoration House."

The Tudor wall was partially destroyed while carrying out building work on a former brewery site near Crow Lane.

Speaking to Yourmedway in March, Restoration House's owners Jonathan Wilmet and Robert Tucker hit out at developers Future

Homes saying the firm should have taken steps to protect the wall.

They said: "It's more than 100ft, eight feet high and about three-feet thick. I know it was covered in ivy and the remains of an old building but archaeology is all about finding what is hidden."

"The wall is not exactly inconspicuous."

"You would have also thought it essential that English Heritage be brought in."

The pair said a petition calling for restoration of the wall and the destruction of the new residential buildings that obscure its view had been backed by 9,000 people.



CONGRATULATIONS: Lord Coe

Region awarded for Olympic inspiration

THE first national commendation for innovative projects inspired by the London 2012 Olympic Games has been awarded to Medway, writes Laurence Mozafari.

The region is the first to receive the prestigious Inspire badge. Our Medway is one of the council's most ambitious projects and will involve 25,000 pupils from 87 primary schools.

Seb Coe, chair of the London organising committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games said: "We want to use the games' power to inspire change and recognise our partners around the UK. I congratulate everyone involved in Our Medway for securing the Inspire mark and wish you every success with your work."

The four-year programme will include different themes and focuses. It hopes to promote a healthy

lifestyle and community spirit, and will incorporate both classroom work and study visits.

Visits so far have ranged from sports lessons in horse riding and trampolining, to tours of both the Medway regeneration and Olympic Park sites.

Medway Council's community services chief Howard Doe said: "I am thrilled and delighted by this award, as it recognises the great efforts we are making to make use of 2012."

"The games should really involve our young people and inspire some to become the champions of tomorrow."

Our Medway also won the Sustainable Communities Award earlier this year.

• For more information on Our Medway visit www.medway.gov.uk/london2012.

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SCREENING: As many as 13,000 samples a month are tested for MRSA at Medway NHS Foundation Trust

NHS Trust cleans up on superbugs in latest report

MEDWAY Maritime Hospital has been given a clean bill of health after a hygiene check-up by the industry watchdog.

The Care Quality Commission's report found Medway NHS Foundation Trust, which runs the hospital, to be "meeting its duty" across four categories, including establishing effective management systems for infection prevention and control, and providing a clean and safe environment.

Infection prevention director Rella Workman said she was delighted with the CQC's findings, published last Wednesday: "These achievements have been possible through our zero-tolerance approach to all avoidable healthcare-associated infections. We have achieved our MRSA screening requirements well ahead of the government's stipulated targets and timescales.

"Our pathology department has revolutionised the way it works to cater for this. It now tests a staggering 13,000 samples per month, compared to around 1,000 two years ago. They are able to tell us within 24 hours how a patient has tested."

"The hospital has an isolation ward which means that once those patients carrying the MRSA bacteria are identified, they can be appropriately managed to prevent the spread of infections."

The trust has also put a range of procedures in place to raise awareness of and minimise the risks of healthcare-acquired infections to patients from

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

Medway and Swale visiting the hospital.

Hand hygiene stations have been placed inside every ward, a strict 'bare below the elbow' policy for all staff who work in clinical areas, annual infection prevention and control training is mandatory for every member of trust staff, and a 'board to ward' commitment which sees that top level decisions deliver actual benefits for patients have all been introduced.

A trust spokesman added: "We will continue to build on this, with our dedicated infection prevention and control team, and ensure our patients remain confident we are working hard to deliver high standards of hygiene to provide a safe and clean environment."

A report published by the CQC two weeks ago painted a very different picture of the trust's hygiene standards.

The trust's self-assessment declaration saw it included on a 21-strong list of healthcare providers nationwide that were found not to be meeting government regulations for managing the spread of infection.

Head of infection control Linda Dempster said: "I think it is important people know it was our own declaration. At the time we had some work going on to change the way our housekeeping team is trained."

The CQC was formed from the amalgamation of the Healthcare Commission, the Commission for Social Care Inspection and the Mental Health Act Commission.

Old methods for a modern education

APPRENTICESHIPS had been viewed as old-fashioned and out-of-touch with modern society.

They decreased in popularity with the rise of young people going to colleges and universities.

But they now seem to be back in vogue as many employers turn to apprenticeships as a way of saving money, while giving young people the opportunity to gain working experience.

In the latest of the Money Matters series of video clips, Yourkenttv reporter Julie Maddocks investigates the growing trend.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Learn how to quit online

A FIRST-of-a-kind NHS stop smoking website will give users the chance to speak online to experts and other addicts about quitting.

The site www.smokefreemedway.org.uk will stage its launch event at Priestfield Stadium in Gillingham on Friday, May 8, at 2pm.

Scott Elliott, Medway Stop Smoking Service operations manager, said: "The website will be another source of support for the 2,500 smokers in Medway, who set a quit day with the team each year. It will include innovative ways of supporting smokers to quit."

Additionally the Medway Stop Smoking Service will be staging a competition to design and produce content for the section of the website devoted to young people.

The competition details will be announced at the launch event.

Anyone seeking help and advice to give up smoking, should contact the Stop Smoking Service on 0800 2346805.

Keep all windows locked

POLICE have urged homeowners to keep doors and windows locked while out in the warmer weather.

Residents are warned that car keys and handbags, and other valuables, should not be left on display in front of windows.

Doors and windows should always be locked but keys accessible in case of an emergency, a timer used when going away for a long time and a burglar alarm fitted.

Contact your neighbourhood officer for details, who can be found at www.kent.police.uk or by calling 01622 690690.

Digging in for landscaping

A THEME park is planning to upgrade its funfair, tracked areas, four buildings and some landscaping.

Diggerland at Medway Valley Leisure Park in Chatham has sent its proposals for approval from Medway Council.

A development control meeting will consider the plans later today, taking into account the views of other agencies.

Kent Police have advised sufficient lighting in car parks to deter and detect crime.

Diggerland is a theme park on a 21.5-acre site that allows visitors to drive dumper trucks and diggers.

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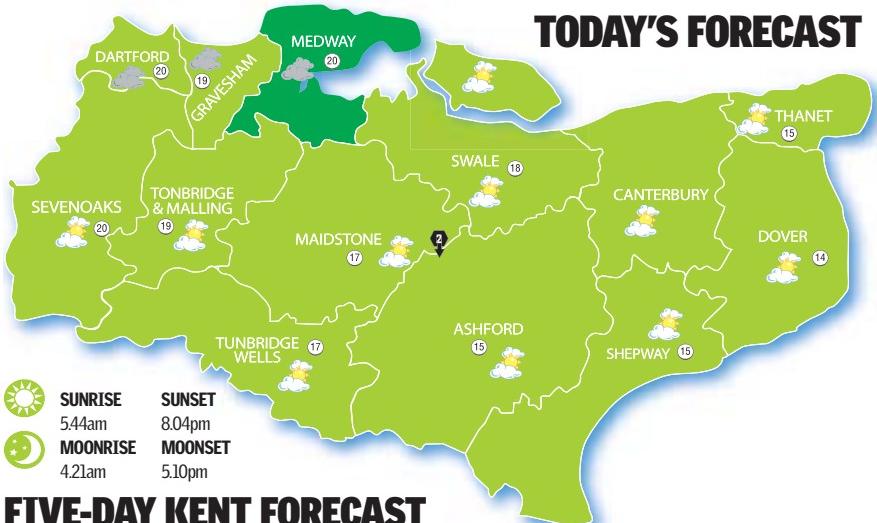


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TODAY'S FORECAST

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WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	1:48pm	6.0m
	Sunday	2:26pm	6.1m
Dover	Saturday	11:47am	6.5m
	Sunday	12:27pm	6.6m
Dungeness	Saturday	12:03pm	7.7m
	Sunday	12:39pm	7.8m
Ramsgate	Saturday	12:17pm	5.0m
	Sunday	12:57pm	5.0m
Sheerness	Saturday	1:38pm	5.8m
	Sunday	2:16pm	5.8m
Whitstable	Saturday	1:41pm	5.1m
	Sunday	2:18pm	5.1m



WINNERS: Kent's men's crew celebrate Medway Boat Race success in 2008 after a closely contested race.

Rowers training hard to make an oarsome effort

STUDENT rowers will take to the river next month to battle it out for the third annual Universities at Medway Boat Race.

Teams from the three Chatham Maritime universities – Kent, Canterbury Christ Church and Greenwich – will take part in the 2.6km sprint in the bid to win bragging rights over their rival undergraduates.

Kent's men's crew are the current river kings, while the University of Greenwich are the reigning women's champs.

The annual race has once again been organised by Universities at Medway Students' Association, which represents all students at the shared Medway campus.

The races take place between Cuxton and the Esplanade, Rochester, on Saturday, May 23, with the first race setting off at 1pm.

Spectators are invited to cheer the students on from The Esplanade, near Hathaway Court.

The rowers have all been trained by coaches at Medway Towns Rowing Club.

The event is being sponsored by Rochester Bridge Trust and the trophies and medals have once again been created by renowned Medway artist Paula Groves.



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Ashford	18°C	18°C	17°C	17°C	16°C	Gravesend	18°C	18°C	18°C	17°C	16°C
Canterbury	14°C	15°C	17°C	17°C	15°C	Maidstone	18°C	18°C	17°C	17°C	15°C
Chatham	15°C	15°C	15°C	14°C	13°C	Ramsgate	14°C	15°C	17°C	17°C	15°C
Dartford	18°C	18°C	18°C	17°C	16°C	Rochester	15°C	15°C	15°C	14°C	13°C
Dover	14°C	14°C	15°C	15°C	14°C	Sevenoaks	17°C	17°C	16°C	15°C	14°C
Faversham	15°C	15°C	15°C	14°C	13°C	Sittingbourne	15°C	15°C	15°C	14°C	13°C
Folkestone	14°C	14°C	15°C	15°C	14°C	Tonbridge	18°C	18°C	18°C	17°C	16°C
Gillingham	15°C	15°C	15°C	14°C	13°C	Tun Wells	18°C	18°C	18°C	17°C	16°C

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		
Ashford	18°C	18°C	17°C	17°C	16°C	Gravesend	18°C	18°C	18°C	17°C	16°C
Canterbury	14°C	15°C	17°C	17°C	15°C	Maidstone	18°C	18°C	17°C	17°C	15°C
Chatham	15°C	15°C	15°C	14°C	13°C	Ramsgate	14°C	15°C	17°C	17°C	15°C
Dartford	18°C	18°C	18°C	17°C	16°C	Rochester	15°C	15°C	15°C	14°C	13°C
Dover	14°C	14°C	15°C	15°C	14°C	Sevenoaks	17°C	17°C	16°C	15°C	14°C
Faversham	15°C	15°C	15°C	14°C	13°C	Sittingbourne	15°C	15°C	15°C	14°C	13°C
Folkestone	14°C	14°C	15°C	15°C	14°C	Tonbridge	18°C	18°C	18°C	17°C	16°C
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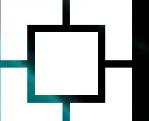
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QUESTION & ANSWER

CLAIRE LAWSON



Q & A

Invicta FM breakfast DJ Claire Lawson spoke to Tom Betts about her eclectic taste in music, how her passion for her job makes the early mornings worth it and why she wishes Kent had a few more mountains.

Q How did you get into radio?

A I did a little bit of news reading on my university radio station, so when I heard an advert on a local station in Newcastle for traffic and travel presenters, I sent in my tape. After several live on air auditions I got the job. That's where it all started.

Q When is your show on and how long have you been doing it?

A I'm the voice of weekend breakfast on Invicta FM. I started in January after taking time off to have my baby, Gracie. She is nine months old now and it is so good to be back on the radio. You can hear me on Saturday and Sunday between 8am and noon.

Q What advice would you offer to anyone who wants to get into DJ-ing?

A If you want to do something, you have to push yourself. Don't wait for an opportunity to fall at your feet. Chase your dream and don't stop until you are there. Prepare yourself for many a knock-back along the way. In the end, if you are that determined, you will get where you want to be.

Q What is the best thing about presenting a radio show?

A I love the fact that it's so intimate. I'm sat in a cosy little studio, playing tons of great songs. I get to chat about all the things I love,

Whether it be gossip on a celebrity or a great film. It's great to talk to our listeners as well on the phones.

Q What is the worst?

A Having to get up early on a weekend. But it's worth it.

Q How much planning goes into an average show?

A I'm always planning. In taxis, restaurants, or out and about at the shops. If you suddenly see me stop and grab a piece of paper and pen, you know why. I'm constantly jotting things down I think would be great to talk about on the radio.

Q Do you look to emulate another DJ's style - perhaps one you enjoyed listening to when you were younger?

A Not at all. I just want to be me. I enjoy listening to other presenters, but if I wanted to sound like them I wouldn't be happy with myself. My main aim is to be the person you chat to down at the pub ... but on the radio.

Q What are your hobbies and interests?

A I am desperate to get back on the golf course. I had lessons before I had Gracie and haven't got round to playing since. I love skiing, too. I learned to ski with the Army in Scotland, which was fantastic. They say if you

can ski well in Scotland, you can ski anywhere. I just wish we had mountains in Kent. Eating out is probably my favourite thing in the world. Most weekends you will either find me in Zizzi in Maidstone, or the White Horse or the Oak on the Green in Bearsted.

Q Where in Kent do you live and how long have you lived there?

A I have lived at Bearsted Green for more than two years now and I love it. It is a great community with fantastic pubs right on your doorstep. I never, ever want to move.

Q How much influence do you have on the music played on your show?

A A lot actually. A lot of research is carried out to find out what people want to listen to. I think our playlist is great. So much variety, with little sprinklings of old and new. People often ask if I listen to Invicta when I'm not on air. Of course I do.

Q What are your musical tastes? Who are your favourite acts?

A I have incredibly varied taste in music. I really do love everything. One minute I could be bopping away to something from Dirty Dancing, then the next I could be singing along to Coldplay.

My favourite song of all time is Starship's Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now, from the film Mannequin.

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Kent Life is relaunched as family fun visitor attraction. Search 'Kent'



Plans for Create Music Festival hit by funding cut. Search 'Create'

EDITOR'S CHOICE

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■ BY NICK AMES

COUNTY chiefs will lobby Government ministers to put pressure on their French counterparts to end the misery caused by French strikes in the Channel ports.

They want the Government to seek compensation from the French authorities for businesses and individuals hit by the recent blockade of Calais, Boulogne and Dunkirk by the country's fishermen.

Following Operation Stack being imposed on the M20 for two days last week and the traffic jams this caused on alternative routes, KCC launched the Enough is Enough campaign.

The authority will seek legal advice to establish whether the French State has broken European Union rules regarding the free movement of people and goods.

Its officers say they want to claim compensation from the French Government for the millions of pounds that strike action in the French ports costs Kent's economy.

KCC leader Paul Carter said: "When you consider the misery caused to tens of thousands of Kent people affected by the strikes and the impact on their businesses and travel plans, it is time to say enough is enough and show that we cannot, and will not, put up with these situations any longer."

"We are seeking urgent legal advice to establish whether France has broken the law by allowing the strikes to stop the free movement of people and goods.

"If this is the case we will press the

Compensation campaign stacks up against French



END THE MISERY: County chiefs will lobby Government to put an end to effects of French strikes and Operation Stack

Government to take this up with the French authorities and press for compensation."

The council feels the protests fuel the damaging perception that Kent is frequently closed for business, resulting in the potential loss of millions of pounds in future investment.

P&O Ferries agreed that action was long overdue.

A spokeswoman said: "This backs up what we have been trying to do throughout this current situation – applying pressure to the French right up to the highest level."

"These disputes seem to be happening more and more frequently. In this case the French Government has offered the fishermen compensation.

"That has to send out the wrong message as it will only encourage them to take similar action in the future.

"On Friday another fleet of fishing boats set off for the French ports but were met by a flotilla of coastguard ships.

"This made them turn back – so it shows that where the will exists they can be stopped from bringing disruption to cross-Channel traffic."

A spokesman for LD Lines added: "As the newest operator from Dover we are greatly concerned about how services are being affected.

"We'd support any action being called for and we are very frustrated that we can't provide advertised services."

Anyone affected by the impact of these strikes, should email their experiences and comments to enoughisenough@kent.gov.uk so that they can be included in the KCC campaign.

Kent has growing responsibility for smuggled children through ports

A SENIOR County Hall official has spoken of the "parental responsibility" he feels towards the growing number of vulnerable children being smuggled through Kent ports.

Bill Anderson, director of children's social services at Kent County Council, said one reason for the increasing influx of young people into the county was because of tightened security measures at airports.

New figures obtained under the Freedom of Information Act found KCC took 474 children into its care between April and

December last year.

But during that period 86 of the young people went missing, making them vulnerable to sexual and economic exploitation.

Nationally, the figures show there has been a 90 per cent increase compared to the amount of trafficked children arriving over the last three years.

KCC has to handle the highest amount of young people coming into the UK.

Mr Anderson said the largest proportion of 'unaccompanied minors' came from

Afghanistan, with a high numbers also from Eritrea, Iran and Iraq.

He said: "We are very mindful of the threats to these young people in terms of economic and sexual exploitation.

"They come from situations of considerable political instability where the security of the state has broken down, the state is incredibly corrupt and they are enormously distrustful of authority.

"This is compounded by their fear of being deported.

"It is not surprising that a lot of the young people, who can be quite resilient, trust the networks they have established.

"The evidence we have is that the vast majority disappear almost certainly for these reasons, not that they are being exploited sexually or economically, but because they are suspicious of the state."

But he added: "We have a parental responsibility to these young people and we do everything we can to protect them, keep them safe and give them effective support."

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Whatever it means to you, the chances are it will be embodied within a very British dish. Yet a hugely popular restaurant in Thanet is turning the tables on our preconceptions, by delivering a taste of the East with very Kentish ingredients.

The Surin Thai restaurant, tucked away near the harbour in Ramsgate, may specialise in Thai, Lao and Cambodian cuisine, but its mouth-watering meals comprise of some of the finest home-grown produce.

Owner and chef Damrong Garbutt explains: "I love cooking so much and trying different recipes and dishes, and I make each one with love. And of course the food has to be really tasty and fresh – that's why my food miles should be measured in metres."

Vegetables are bought daily from Ramsgate market just down the road from the restaurant. Mrs Garbutt searches out the best cuts of meats and fresh fish from the local butchers and the catch of the day from the harbour.

Even the specialist Thai sauces and chillies are bought from local Asian supermarkets in Ramsgate and Canterbury. It is a combination of the near and far which not only endears the restaurant to an ever-increasing number of regular diners, but to critics too, who have so far been lavish in praise.

Harden's restaurant guide describes Surin as the "best Thai restaurant in Kent" and one of only three Thai restaurants recognised outside London. Already reviewed by the Michelin Guide, Mrs Garbutt is crossing her fingers for a Michelin star, which would make her the only such Thai chef and restaurant in the world. Observer Food critic Jay Rayner described Surin as "simply the best Thai meal I have ever eaten".



SURIN FARE: Locally caught sea bass and traditional green curry – mouth-watering



All of which is very much in keeping with KOS Media's 2009 campaign to encourage our readers to demand locally sourced and produced food and drink.

Not only does putting money back into the local economy, but it cuts down on the environmentally unfriendly distance such produce travels from source to our dinner table.

Typical items of the menu include Thai dumplings made with Kent pork and fresh crabmeat. Then there's Whitstable oysters dipped in hot chilli and shallot sauce. And the main dish is fresh sea bass with in-season Kentish asparagus or a Thai red curry with partridge from the farm just down the road.

Says Mrs Garbutt: "I am committed to using as much fresh, seasonal Kent produce as possible. It is unusual for an Oriental restaurant. We have searched out local suppliers for nearly every ingredient used."

And while she admits the recipes have been passed down through her generations to ensure an authentic experience, she remains thoroughly committed to every dish's ingre-

dients originating in Kent. Her efforts have been acknowledged too. She has won a Kent County Council Environment Award and a Green Tourism recommendation, as well as several Kent Business awards, and is recommended by The Good Food Guide and Time Out.

Even the Thai Embassy in London recommends Surin as one of the best Thai restaurants in Europe.



SPICE GIRL:
Damrong Garbutt
cooks a range of tasty
Thai dishes in her
restaurant



Basket price comparison

Sample baskets contain: Granary bread, two pints milk, 1l tonic water, 4 x 150ml yoghurts, 4 x Spitfire Beer (500ml), 500g Red Grapes, 1kg apples, 1kg Conference pears, 4 x oranges, 1 x melon, 1kg plums, 2kg potatoes, 1kg onions, 1kg carrots, 1kg leeks, 1 x red cabbage, 500g cherry tomatoes, 500g purple sprouting, 1 x large cauliflower, 400g salmon fillets, 500g Cumberland sausages, 250g back bacon, 500g braising steak. Closest match applied. Excludes Express and Metros. Excludes delivery charge. Red number indicates price difference. Source mysupermarket.com as of April 15, 2009.



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BREAK TIME


HANDS ON: Mum Caroline Harding with daughter Lara, three, and son Adam, five, getting stuck in

Easter was a right mess at Temple Hill

PRE-school youngsters enjoyed a range of Easter-themed activities at Temple Mill Children's Centre's messy fun day.

Dozens of toddlers took part in the spring-time session at the Cliffe Road centre in Strood with their parents and grandparents helping them to make baby animals, plant bulbs and create masks.

Medway Council's children's services boss Les Wicks said the two-hour free-for-all had been a huge success.

He said: "I am very pleased our Sure Start Children's Centres are going the extra mile to make sure our children have a fun-filled spring break."

"It is clear a lot of messy fun was had and I am pleased to see parents are joining in with the fun too."

West End stage heroes hand out their expertise

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

TWO West End stars brought the razzle dazzle of the London Theatre scene to Chatham earlier this month for an all-singing all-dancing master class.

Acclaimed performer Nicola Hughes and top-rated musical director Danny Whitby put MidKent College performing arts students through their paces during the one-day workshop, giving them an insight into the high standards and demands of the industry.

Nicola – who was catapulted to stardom through her performance of Bess in Sir Trevor Nunn's Porgy and Bess – said she was thrilled to give tips to the wannabe stars at the college's Horsted campus.

She said: "This kind of workshop is great experience for the students."

"Much like them, I didn't know what the industry was really like until I went to my first audition."

"But if they make the most of their time at college and approach their course in the right way, they can make a real impression when they finally get out there and start attending auditions."

Seasoned director Danny Whitby, who has worked on hit productions such as Cats, Little Shop of Horrors and The Sound of Music, added: "It's always nice to share your experiences of working in the industry with budding performers, but these students have been particularly responsive."

"Musical directors expect a high level of com-



MASTER CLASS: Emily Brown (left) and Faye Hudson (right), with West End star Nicola Hughes (centre)

mitment and quality and these learners have certainly risen to the challenge."

Student Emily Brown, 17, from Chatham, said she had gained a great deal from the workshop, saying: "This has been a brilliant

opportunity for us and it's been great to question people who've actually made it in the business."

"It's showed us that if you are prepared to work hard, you can get where you want to be."

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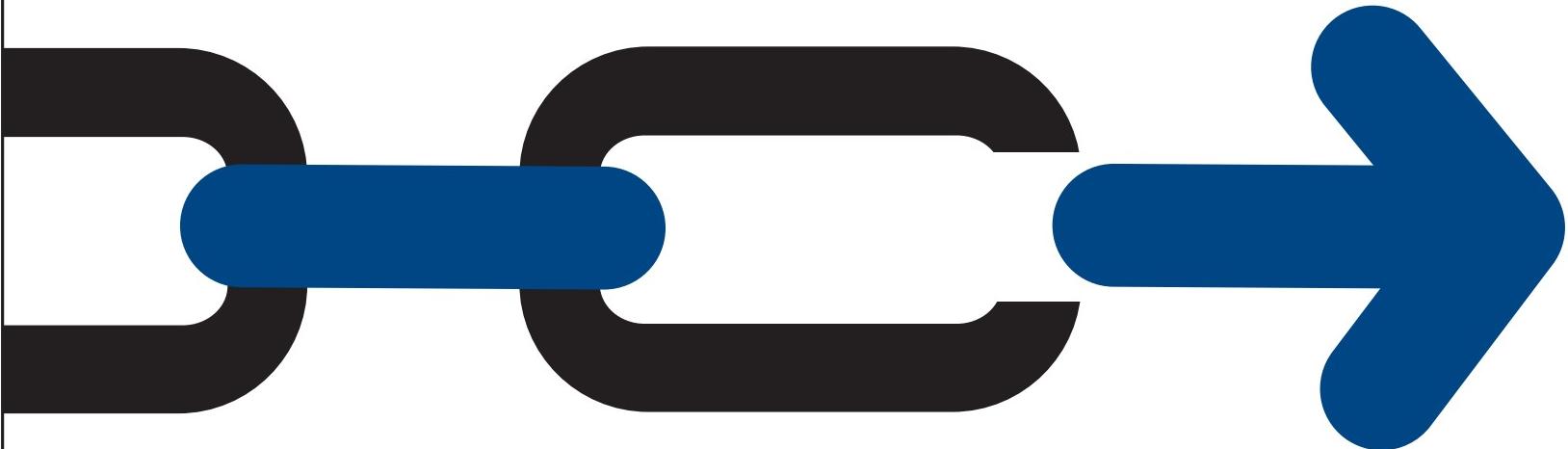
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Let's re-ignite our disruptive side and say oui to the unions

NIGEL Farage, the Kent-based leader of the UK Independence Party, was drafted in to speak on BBC Radio Kent last week on the issue of the striking French fishermen.

Most of the conversation went along exactly the sort of lines you would expect.

But of interest was Mr Farage's claim that British workers could do a lot worse than take a leaf out of the books of their French cousins and kick up some good old-fashioned industrial action.

He claimed, however, that us Brits would never do such things as strike or stand up for our rights as "it wasn't very British".

Clearly we're all far too busy selecting our next bowler hat, while sipping Earl Grey and discussing the cricket season than to dirty our hands displaying some industrial backbone.

Or, of course, it could simply be that not all that long ago a certain Prime Minister decided to crush trade unions to within an inch of their disruptive lives.

Mr Farage is not that much of an old-timer, admittedly, but surely he has some recollection of the Seventies when the British workforce stood up for what they believed in and fuelled by considerable union clout, they demonstrated that striking was a sport Britain could genuinely claim they were something of a specialist at?

So by the time Mrs Thatcher rolled along at the end of that decade, few could really argue that things were few for our efficiency as a country. Of course, the Iron Lady went too far – demolishing the power of the worker by clamping down and diluting unions to the point today when so few actually carry any clout at all.

The miners' strike was hardly a shining example of decorum, Mr Farage.

If you're a public sector worker, the chances

are there is still a weight in numbers. If not, then union membership brings little other than half-price training seminars, monthly magazines and little work-place clout.

It has nothing to do with raising a fuss, not being 'British' or other such old guff, and everything to do with the British government of yesteryear beating it out of everyone.

Now, of course, we've gone full circle. Now we tut and roll our eyes when the French stand up for themselves. We tap into a latent xenophobia to condemn them.

I'm not for one moment suggesting their stance on fishing quotas is correct, or the disruption caused on this side of the Channel is justified. But at least they can take a stance on what they believe in. And surely that's very British isn't it?

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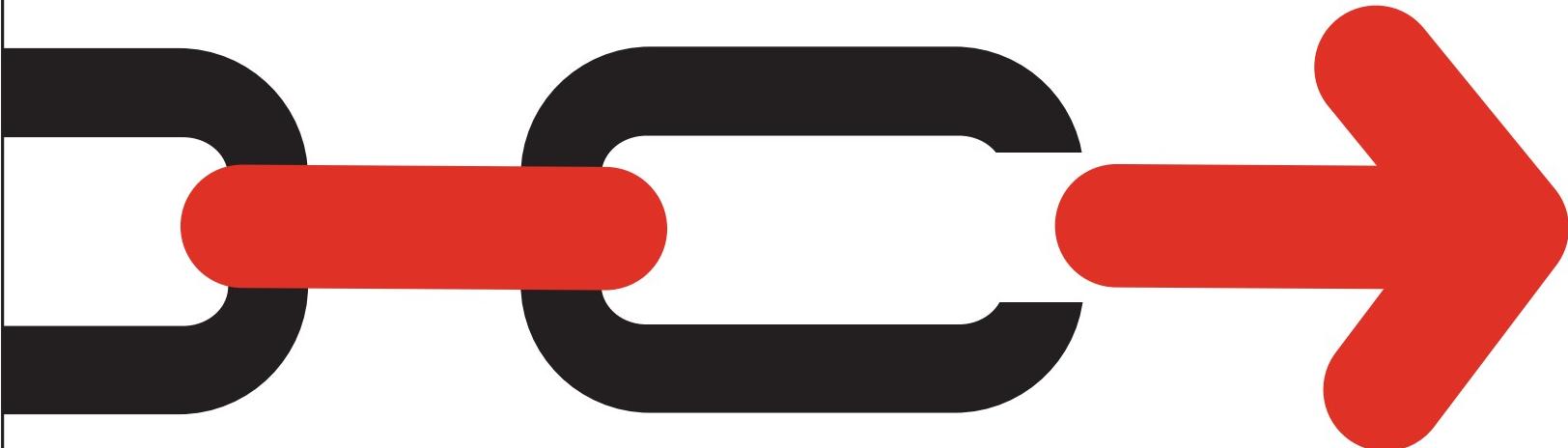


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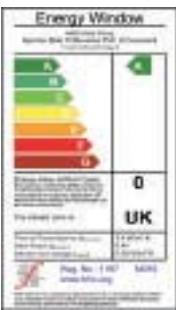
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yourletters

TALK TIME

LOUISE THOMPSON

Fashion promotions student from the University of the Creative Arts in Medway talks about pole dancing and breaking down its sleazy stereotypes

Can you tell us a bit about yourself?

I'm 21 and live in Gravesend. I have lived there all my life and am currently in my third year at the University of the Creative Arts in Medway, studying fashion promotions. I also work part-time at Bluewater shopping centre and take part in Fit2Flirt, a pole dancing exercise group.

How and why did you get into pole dancing?

I got told about pole dancing lessons from a friend from work. I decided to take part as I'm very busy and do not take part in any sort of fitness. I felt that pole dancing would be different and a good form of fitness. It also enables me to get away from studying and have a bit of fun and enjoy time with my friends.

Does it bother you that pole dancing appeals to men?

I feel that it is associated with seedy clubs and dancers, whereas it actually takes a lot of skill and strength, and these facts are not always taken into account. Overall I think that it is just a fun and enjoyable way to keep fit.

How can readers get involved?

It is easy to get involved. Fit2Flirt, the team that teach us, put on a night where it costs £5 for an hour just to get a taste of what the classes will be like and give you a feel to if you will enjoy it or not.

* For more information on Fit2Flirt contact Lisa on 07866 534405 or email enquiries@fit2flirt.co.uk.



YOUR LETTERS



Shut the card cloning garages

I had my card cloned here and only escaped serious consequences because of the excellent services of First Direct.

The fact is that these garages are still open and judging by the feedback on Facebook, they are still at it. I reported this to the police and I was told it's up to the banks to investigate it.

Frankly I feel these garages should either close voluntarily whilst this is investigated, or face the wrath of the Facebook Army.

Carrie Owens, from Rainham, comment posted on web story at www.yourmedway.co.uk

Who's responsible for prosecutions?

Interesting that Garrie Owens was told by the police that it is up to the banks to investigate it.

My credit card was cloned and used in Thailand, but the money was refunded by my bank.

Apparently there is no point in



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providing the police with details as the banks will be investigating, and presumably prosecuting those responsible? Not.

Jerry Morley, from Reading, Berkshire, comment posted on web story at www.yourmedway.co.uk

ID like to see fraud reduced to zero

Banks have the option to reduce all fraud crimes to virtually zero

simply by making signature and PIN systems reliable.

Proposed ID key systems will enable individuals to obtain their ID stickers at any point of transaction plus provide a Card Key Code to activate PIN transactions and hence deter use of stolen or skimmed cards.

Only this system will eliminate the need for us to protect our personal and card details to deter fraud.

I hope that banks will exploit the proposed system before it is too late to stop a fraud boom.

Roger, from Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, comment posted on web story at www.yourmedway.co.uk



21 day ban won't drive home dangers

What a joke our legal system is. Do they think that banning this lowlife idiot for 21 days is going to make difference to him?

He's at the pub right now bragging to his brain-dead buddies what he got away with.

This is just another pathetic example of what you can expect from our bleeding heart legal system. They should all be ashamed.

Let's only hope it's their child/wife/mother he kills next

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time he drives like that.

Maybe then they'll do the right thing and re-think their actions.

Charlie Mason, from Sevenoaks, comment posted on web story at www.yourmedway.co.uk

Showing pride is a beret good idea

Apparently the beret is back as a symbol of French pride with younger people across the Channel all deciding to sport a garment which many thought had gone for good outside of old episodes of Allo Allo.

Why don't we over here show our patriotism too – especially in the month of St George's Day.

Stuart Stanhope, by email



Wilful disregard is a reel problem

The current debate about fish quotas is yet again one Britain cannot win.

Whatever deal this country manages to get through the European courts and commissions will, just as surely as has happened in the past,

be broken by unscrupulous fishermen from the Continent, who will disregard the rules their countries have signed up to.

It is not the fault of successive governments there is a problem in this area – it is the wilful disregard of people from European continental states who make their living from the sea for the rules laid down to regulate them.

Alan Haynes, by email

Pensioners bearing brunt of fuel poverty

The Green Party does not believe fuel poverty in Kent can be removed as a social problem unless the minimum state pension is raised.

Kent Green Party has drawn attention to high levels of fuel poverty in the county on many occasions.

The party has just announced its support for a new deal for pensioners.

This is to include a £165 a week non-means-tested citizens' pension for every pensioner in the UK.

There are more than 109,000 households in Kent living in fuel poverty, according to latest Government figures. Many of these households include elderly people, so it is vital that the basic state pension be increased. Last year the poorest quarter of UK pensioner households saw their incomes rise by less than one per cent, well below inflation.

The poorest single pensioners saw their real incomes drop by four per cent. At least 15 per cent of UK pen-

sioners – more than 1.5 million older people – are living in persistent poverty.

This evidence, from the National Pensioners' Convention, suggests the elderly are bearing the brunt of the economic crisis.

The Government can fund a better pension. Dispensable and costly policies it is committed to at present include a national ID card (at least £12 billion); renewal of Trident nuclear weapons (£60bn over the life of the system); road-building at £300m per mile of motorway; two aircraft carriers (over £4.6bn).

Steve Dawe, Kent Green Party, by email

Going bananas to get the message across

World Cancer Research Fund's Go Bananas on Fruity Friday takes place next month and we're urging schools and companies to have a dress down day, wear yellow for Fruity Friday and make a donation to WCRF.

This year's Fruity Friday, on May 15, is set to be the biggest ever.

The aim is to get across the message about the importance of a healthy diet with plenty of fruit and vegetables, while raising funds for our cancer prevention research and education programmes.

To find out more about how to organise their own event, visit www.fruityfriday.org or call 020 7343 4205 for more information.

Teresa Nightingale, World Cancer Research Fund, by email

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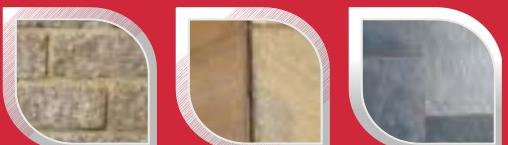
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SOUNDS NEW CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL



Thursday, April 23, to Sunday, May 3
Various venues, Canterbury

DISCOVER the wonder of Polish composers and musicians at this year's Sounds New Contemporary Music Festival.

Supported by the Adam Mickiewicz Institute and the Polish Cultural Institute, the festival – which takes the theme Polish Connections – will provide the chance for Kent people to find out what contemporary music from that country has to offer. It will be one of the flagship events of Polska Year, the international Polish cultural season which comes to the UK this year.

The highlight of the festival will be a performance of Krzysztof Penderecki's St Luke Passion in Canterbury Cathedral on Saturday, May 2, conducted by the composer himself.

It has long been an ambition for the festival team to bring Penderecki to Canterbury and it will be the first time the piece has been heard in the UK for nearly 30 years.

It will be performed by soloists, three leading Polish choirs and the Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra. The narrator will be Jerzy



TUNE IN: An impressive variety of acts will introduce listeners to the wonders of Polish music

Trela, described as "the Kenneth Branagh of Poland".

This festival has been organised with a key concept in mind – accessibility. Contemporary Music-Making for Amateurs, or CoMA, will be holding a residency linked to the festival

and an international conference on Polish music will be at Canterbury Christ Church University, including Penderecki among the speakers.

Film fans can also get involved and discover the influence Poland has had on the big screen with the film weekend at the Gulbenkian Cinema.

The festival will get off to a grand start with a concert by the Royal Scottish Academy Brass and members of the Philharmonia Brass, conducted by trumpet virtuoso John Wallace. Not only will it feature two UK premieres, one of which has been

composed by Penderecki, but the programme also includes a world premiere of Marek Pasieczny's New Work.

Festival-goers will discover all sorts of different music – the programme at Orange Street Music Venue includes a concert by jazz stars Evan Parker and Paul Booth, along with more experimental sounds.

This Saturday, the Gulbenkian Theatre will host a concert by The Motion Trio, a group which truly encapsulates the magic and melancholy of Eastern Europe. With their rock energy, Metallica-style look and thrilling acoustic sound, they will cast accordion-playing in a whole new light.

• Full festival listings and box office details can be found at www.soundsnew.org.uk or call 01227 780800 for a copy of the brochure.

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LONDON PHILHARMONIC SKIFFLE ORCHESTRA

Saturday, April 25
St Matthew's Church, Wigmore

JOIN Captain Cabbage and the boys for an evening of musical madness when the London Philharmonic Skiffle Orchestra comes to Medway.

The latest act in the St Matthew's Community Concert Programme will show just how diverse the series has become, with a performance that promises to be bizarre, energetic, colourful, fun, tuneful and much more.

Captain Cabbage began his career as a singer-guitarist in the 70s and later branched out into acting. On the set of Auf Wiedersehen, Pet, he met Martyn Oram, a founder member of popular



folk band Waterfall.

Former actor Mike Martin made a name for himself with the 80s old-time/Cajun band Peace On The Panhandle and played in a duo with Oram through the 90s. Completing the quartet is The Right Horrible Ronald Regan, who was a bassist in 60s band Fortes Mentum

and a founder member of legendary musical comedy act, Nuts & Bolts.

The concert starts at 7.30pm. Tickets, priced at £7, are available by calling 01634 372508, by emailing mattsconcerts@hotmail.co.uk or by writing to 42 The Goldings, Rainham, ME8 0AX.

THE NAKED TRUTH

Friday and Saturday, April 24-25
Central Theatre, Chatham

FIVE women struggle to master pole dancing in the moving and funny play, The Naked Truth.

With an all-female cast, led by Abi Titmuss, it explores women's relationships, hang-ups, attitudes to men and their feelings about their bodies. Written for women about women, the play is described as 'Calendar Girls meets Stepping Out'.

The play also stars Lisa Riley, who played Mandy Dingle in Emmerdale, Julie Buckfield from Hollyoaks, former Coronation Street star Emily Aston, Lorraine Hodgson of Eastenders fame and Trudi Goodwin, who will be familiar to millions from her role as June Ackland in The Bill.

Written by Dave Simpson,



the author of hit West End comedy Girls Night Out, the story follows five women's laughter and tears as they prepare for a pole dancing event in aid of a breast cancer charity.

Tickets for the show, which is not suitable for under-16s, are priced from £14.50 to £18.50.

To book call 01634 338338 or go online to www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebooking.

GRAVESEND BOROUGH BAND

Saturday, April 25
St George's Church, Gravesend

GRAVESEND Borough Band marks a very special anniversary this weekend with a celebratory concert.

Sixty years ago, principal clarinettist Vera Bennett (nee Twist) joined the band at the tender age of 16 and has given unfailing service ever since. Her dedication is evident in her exemplary attendance, reliability and affection for the band, a standard which has never faltered since 1949.

Always one of the first to arrive at the Thursday practice sessions and invariably the last to leave, Vera has given an enormous amount of support over the years, ensuring high standards of musicianship and making new members feel welcome.

Each week during practice, members are treated to a brief history lesson as Vera reminisces about life with the band and her early days as an aspiring young clarinettist. She has made a huge contribution to the 129-year history of the band and continues to exert an influence on those around her.

The concert starts at 7pm and tickets cost £6/£5. To book call 01474 351688.



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MEDWAY LEISURE

Enjoy a truly Cockney experience at the pub

EVERYONE'S favourite Cockney sparrows, Chas and Dave, will be performing in Gillingham this weekend.

Famous for hits such as Rabbit, Gertcha and The Sideboard Song, the pair can be seen at the Cherry Orchard in Deanwood Drive at 7pm on Saturday.

Pie, mash and alcohol will be available. Tickets, priced at £7.50, are available on 01634 234652.

Tribute act are forever celebrating Abba's hits

SEE dancing queens in action when tribute band Abba Forever visits Gravesend.

All of Abba Forever's vocals and music are performed live, which means their performances have to be at the highest level in order to meet the challenge.

Abba Forever will be at the Woodville Halls at 8pm on Friday. Priced at £15, tickets are available from 01474 337774 and at www.woodvillehalls.com.

Blues are Snowy White at Mick Jagger Centre

ONE of the great British blues-orientated guitarists can be seen at The Mick Jagger Centre on Friday.

Snowy White worked with Peter Green and Pink Floyd before joining Thin Lizzy. In the Snowy White Blues Project, he presents a fusion of blues and rock.

The concert at the Dartford venue starts at 8pm, tickets cost £17.50/£15.50. To book call 01322 291100.

Pair aim to deal out a great night for all folk

DESCRIBED as folk's answer to the White Stripes, The Dealers are regarded as one of Britain's best unsigned acts.

Their self-penned albums fuse acoustic guitar with classic English pop, making them an exciting act on the folk scene.

The concert is at the Brook Theatre at 8pm tomorrow and tickets cost £10 or £9. To book call 01634 338338 or see www.medway.gov.uk/theatrebooking.

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Virgin luxury traveller's LA break

■ BY CATHY GORDON

UNTIL recently I was proud of budget globe-trotting – doing everything on a shoestring, with enough left over for bargain buys in the departure lounge.

But, after a recent foray into the world of Posh and Becks et al, my head has been well and truly turned.

My trip to that Mecca of showbiz, Los Angeles, began with a limo arriving at my humble abode to whisk me to Heathrow. Sadly, it was too early for all but one of my neighbours to witness such a grand departure.

Once through the dedicated security channel, I went pronto to the flagship Virgin Clubhouse. No battling the crowds and queues for new VIP-me, that's for sure.

Instead of my usual schlep around the shops, I relaxed with a complimentary coiffure in the clubhouse salon before entering the hitherto unknown world of upper-class flying. I may need counselling the next time I go economy.

On arrival at LAX airport, I felt as fresh as a newly-minted starlet.

Yet another limo whisked me and my companions to Santa Monica, a favourite seaside haunt of the rich and famous.

Location is all. One simply must holiday where one can step straight from one's hotel onto the beach and dabble one's tootsies in the Pacific.

Staying at either Shutters On The Beach Hotel or Casa del Mar next to it fits the bill perfectly. I got the opulent Casa del Mar, and it was so exhausting sitting on my private terrace outside my room.

It was also very stressing, on arrival, trying



ATMOSPHERE: Santa Monica is full of character. Soak it all up with a walk along the sand to the historic pier

to ignore the huge four-poster bed. I still had a full day ahead because of the time difference. The show must go on!

The atmosphere of Santa Monica is laid-back and full of character, some of it wonderfully quirky. Soak it all up with a walk along the sand to the historic pier.

Santa Monica is ideal for families or couples, as it has lots of opportunities for sport, good places to eat to fit every budget and marvellous shopping for WAGS, with loads of stores within walking distance of the seafront.

I tried not to be distracted by a passing school of dolphins just yards away and instead turned my attention to lunch.

Try the Lobster seafood restaurant for, well, its delicious lobster. It also serves up bowls of ultra-skinny, to-die-for fries. I bet not many get past the lips of the size zero brigade though.

It is a fascinating eye-opener seeing how the other half lives, particularly in LA. For those of us without a bottomless pocket or a lottery win

behind us, a few days of posh hotels, fine food, hot and cold-running cocktails and pampering treatments galore is a great experience.

I was only there for three nights and it has provided me with dinner party tales ever since. Sadly, I didn't spot a single celebrity – just someone I could have sworn was an actress who used to be in Emmerdale.

The very name Beverly Hills conjures up images of fame and opulence – you can virtually smell the money.

If you can drag yourself away from the pool and the spa, you will find plenty to see in LA. A good way to see the sights, including the Hollywood sign, is an organised tour.

Apparently one of the best areas for spotting screen icons is West Hollywood, where they often hang out. Here, you also find plenty of art and design shops and galleries.

And for designer goodies, no trip to LA is complete without a mooch along Rodeo Drive, even if you only window-shop.



FACT FILE: CALIFORNIA

Time difference	-8 hours (GMT)
Capital	Sacramento
Language	English
Population	36.7 million
Currency	Dollar (\$1.2 to £1 approx)
Religion	Christianity
Climate	Mediterranean

Travel details

Cathy Gordon travelled to Los Angeles as a guest of Virgin Atlantic and stayed at the Casa del Mar Hotel in Santa Monica and The Peninsula Hotel in Beverley Hills.

Full Upper-Class fare Heathrow-LA is £3,515, including taxes and charges, limos to and from airport at both ends, Upper-Class Wing (with private security corridor) at Heathrow, LHR Clubhouse with complimentary beauty treatments plus access to Clubhouse at LAX and priority boarding.

Economy lead in fare is £449, Premium Economy £1,157, both inclusive of taxes and charges. Virgin Atlantic flies to LAX twice daily.

Virgin Atlantic reservations: 0870 574 7747 and www.virginatlantic.com

Virgin Holidays offers a luxury LA break from £3,854, for travel Nov 15-Dec 14, incl Upper-Class return, transfers and seven nights' room-only accommodation at five-star Beverly Wilshire Hotel.

Virgin Holidays reservations: 0844 5573 860 and www.virginholidays.com.

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The company specialises in producing top quality products which will help the whole body to be at its best – whether for people going about their daily business or a special occasion.

Wedding products are items the business particularly prides itself on producing.

She explained: "We make our own soaps, shower gels, bath products and shampoo.

"All of them are free from sodium laurel sulphate (SLS).

"We also make our own natural skincare products like cleansers, toners, face masks, face creams, body scrubs, body butters and hand creams.

"We use shea butter, coconut oil, apricot kernel oil and all sorts of other naturally occurring oils.

"Whenever possible we use the highest quality organic raw materials such as essential vegetable oils and herbs.

"Our current project is to make a rub-in oil which helps in the prevention of psoriasis."

Eva explained the philosophy behind her



business: "What is important is the uniqueness of making products tailored to specific needs. The SLS-free products are also extremely important."

The current best selling product is aimed at those who are preparing for what is likely to be the biggest day of their lives.

It is a bridal pamper pack with a face mask, a face cream, body scrub, body butter and a

body wash, all in a gift pack at a price of £25 – an ideal present for the bride to be in preparation for her wedding.

Current offers also include SLS-free heart shaped soaps in packs of six and multiple fragrances in a gift wrapped bag.

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A lot of sexually transmitted infections don't have symptoms until later on, so you may not be aware you have one – neither may the last person you slept with. Regular testing can give you peace of mind and protect yourself and others.

The Village

Wear a pedometer every day, around home, work, and while exercising. Your goal is to increase your steps to 10,000 or more daily. Remember this: You'll burn roughly 100 to 125 calories by taking 2,500 steps (about one mile).

Brown and Mason

Getting married? Try our bridal pamper pack, ideal to prepare your skin for the big day. It comes in a gift bag and includes face mask, face cream, body scrub, body butter and body wash all for £25. Call Eva on 07816 883845 for more information.

Maidstone Health

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Paul Weller will jam at the Hop Festival

THE Modfather Paul Weller is coming to Kent to headline the second annual Hop Farm Festival.

Yes, dear reader, Paul Weller – who has sold millions of records fronting The Jam and The Style Council, and millions more as a solo artist – will headline the last night of the July two-dayer.

Sir Weller (surely it's only a matter of time) will be joined by indie superstars Editors, Doves and Super Furry Animals as well as

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

Mystery Jets, Ladyhawke and 2ManyDJs.

The opening day's offering is just as strong, with headliner The Fratellis, Echo and the Bunnymen, Florence and the Machine, Noah and the Whale and Pigeon Detectives already among the confirmed acts.

No wonder Red List Live decided to postpone its inaugural event until next summer – tickets to the Hop Farm Festival are going to sell out in record time.

HFF boss Vince Power said he was thrilled with the first wave of confirmed artists and promised to add more major stars to the bill in the coming weeks.

He said: "After some delay due to our licensing issues, we have managed to get a great line up off the ground in time for 2009, with an expected audience of 20,000."

"I'm very pleased with the bands, with more than 70 acts performing across the weekend, and £125 for a weekend ticket including camping and car-parking, making this the best-value festival ticket this year."

"I'm looking forward to the weekend in July."

The Hop Farm Festival stands alone in the overcrowded festival market – offering an event free from ticket registration, VIP areas, branding and sponsorship.

This year the festival offers a weekend experience of boutique camping, top-notch food and traditional ales, with some of the best artists playing across three stages.

The Hop Farm Festival takes place at The Hop Farm, Paddock Wood, on Saturday and Sunday, July 4-5. Weekend tickets cost £125, with day tickets priced at £65.

For more information on this year's event, visit www.hopfarmfestival.com.

SATURDAY

The Fratellis

Echo and the Bunnymen

Pigeon Detectives

Florence and the Machine

Noah and the Whale

Howling Bells

Etienne De Crecy

Dr Lektrolv

DIM

Jape

The Twilight Sad

Let's Wrestle

SUNDAY

Paul Weller

Editors

Doves

Super Furry Animals

Mystery Jets

Ladyhawke

The Riffes

That Petrol Emotion

2ManyDJs

Scratch Perverts

Alex Gopher

Burn the Negative

RSAG

65 Days of Static

Dananananaykroyd

Fight Like Apes

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YOUNG TALENT: Luke Jackson, a 14-year-old singer-songwriter from Canterbury



SHOWCASE: UpCdownC play Black Lodge live on The Ether



KENT UNSIGNED CHART

- 1 Lost in Colour – Stay Awake (from Maidstone)
- 2 The Suspects – War of Words (from Margate)
- 3 Shelta – Beautiful Girl (from Bexley)
- 4 Directions – Golden Light (from Maidstone)
- 5 Euston – In My Headlights (from Deal)

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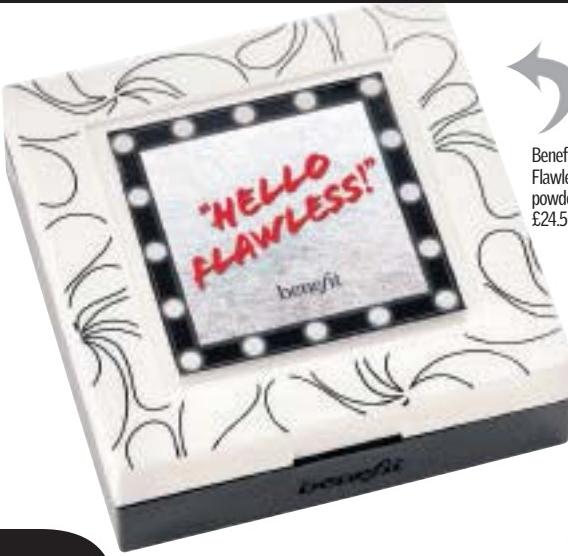
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Dior Nude Natural Glow Hydrating Foundation, price £26.50



Yves Saint Laurent Touche Eclat, price £23

Beauty secrets

Look gorgeous this spring with this cosmetics range from Debenhams



Elizabeth Arden Eight-Hour Cream Intensive Daily Moisturiser, price £26

Estée Lauder Advanced Night Repair Protective Recovery Complex, price £34 for 30ml or £47 for 50ml



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Clinique Dramatically
Different Moisturising
Lotion, price £15 for
50ml/£27 for 125ml
with pump



Lancôme Génifique
Youth Activating
Concentrate, price
£52.50 for 30ml

Clarins Beauty Flash
Balm, price £24.46

MEDWAY SHOPPING

Shimmering your way through the season

GET ready for the summer with Givenchy's shimmering new make-up collection, launching first at Debenhams.

One of the great new products is the Prismissime Mat & Glow Palette, priced at £31.50, which is tipped to be a hot summer buy.

Blend the nine shades and apply to the face to create a glowing complexion.

The range is available at the Chatham High Street store or see online at www.debenhams.com.

The Next stop for your hot summer wardrobe

FIND the perfect summer outfit at Next with their sizzling new range.

The Strood retail park store is offering bright and sassy looks with a signature crotchet dress for £45 and a pretty sun dress for £38 – both recommended by Marie Claire magazine.

White skinny trousers (£20) and bleached denim shorts (£18) can be found in store, along with a denim maxi dress (£45) and yellow frill top (£20). See www.next.co.uk for details.

Store has bargains for guys to scrub up well

REFRESH yourself with selected three-for-two offers on a range of men's toiletries at Boots.

For hair styling a 100ml tub of Trevor Sorbie Mg moulding mud is £6.35, while Moosehead matt holding mud is £4.88.

Nivea Men After Shave cooling balm is only £4.78 and a 75ml bottle of Rehydrating Moisturiser is just £7.33.

And Ted Baker Men's Bodywash is £3.91 and Lynx Snake Peel shower scrub for £1.99 at stores across Medway.

By George, you can get great bargains at Asda

ASDA is running a half price sale on its popular George clothing line.

A three quarter sleeve cardigan with a chiffon yoke and frilly detail is now £7, from £14, available in pastel green.

A flowery knee-length jacquard bow detail dress in coral is a steal at just £4.50 down from £20.

Cami vest tops, perfect for summer casual wear in black and white, are available at the Maidstone Road store in Chatham for just £3.

Jodi Picoult signs her new book at Bluewater

INTERNATIONAL bestselling author Jodi Picoult will be making a rare appearance at Bluewater next week.

The American writer will sign copies of her new book, Handle With Care, at Waterstone's at 12.30pm on Wednesday, April 29. The book tells of a devoted mother whose daughter suffers a severe form of brittle bone disease. How far will she go to secure her child's future?

Handle With Care will be priced at £14.99.

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WOMEN seeking men

H1 I'm Sam, 22, looking for a relationship. I'm blonde, have brown eyes, love cosy nights in and cinema, looking to share a relationship. Box 447871 TXT

FUN-TO-BE-WITH, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494 TXT

SOCIALIE girl, 28, loves pubs, social drinks, meeting new people & more, seeks similar male, 58-62, for a lasting relationship. Box 448756 TXT

OUTGOING, fun female, 28, seeks outgoing, fun guy to make me laugh and share the good times with. Box 882511 TXT

LOVING loyal female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, 5ft+, no baggage. Box 448471 TXT

WARM, kind and sincere woman, 31, lots of love and loyalty for the right person, seeking an honest genuine man with a good heart. Box 451004 TXT

SLIM, blue eyed beauty, 31, loving, caring, very genuine. Wanting someone to cuddle up with at night and have lots of laughs with. Box 881494 Q

EASY-GOING female, 32, enjoys shopping, football, eating out, cosy night in, WLTM loving, caring white male, 35-47, for long-term, loving relationship. No time-wasters. Box 442124 TXT

LOVELY young lady, 33, 5ft8, cuddly larger build, single mum, seeking kind, caring, honest and genuine man for fun/friendship...hopefully more. Box 450371 TXT

CARING, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5ft2, blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 TXT

Pretty black female, 32, tall, loves watching football, shopping, travel, seeking tall, white, loving male, 34-47, for LTR. Box 437778 TXT

32, 5ft9, brown hair, curvy figure, enjoys having fun and a laugh and WLTM nice, kind gent. Box 439402 TXT

PETITE, dark-haired girl, 33, 5ft, fit, loves badminton, cinema and more, searching for an active man, with heart and soul. Box 881047 TXT

SINGLE mum from Kent, 34, 5ft4, works part time, looking for an easy-going and genuine male with gosh for friendship, maybe more. Box 450649 TXT

ATTRACTIVE, fun-loving female, 31, 5ft4, size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Box 308734 TXT

HELLO I'm 35, kind, caring and non-smoking, enjoy cooking, cinema, music, dining in and out, looking for that special someone to enjoy a relationship with. Box 447955 TXT

IM Rachael, 35, medium, enjoys pub, clubs, cosy nights in, cinema, theme parks, looking someone special to share things with. Box 448591 TXT

FAIR-HAIRED female, 35, 5ft, loves the gym, pubs, nights out and fine company, searching for fun bloke, for life, love and laughter. Box 881011 F

LOVELY female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large-build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102 TXT



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GOOD looking woman, 37, 5ft2, looking for new friends, and hopefully someone special. Box 446039 TXT

MUM of three, 36, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, sees kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 406933 TXT

LOVING female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, green eyes, like socialising, staying in, sees genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666 TXT

SINGLE mum, 37, fun-loving, been hurt in past, looking for nice, genuine guy for hopeful happiness - no time wasters! Box 808033 TXT

BUBBLY, cuddly, blonde single mum, 39, 5ft6, likes cars, reading, pubs, cosy nights in, having a laugh, looking for that right male for LTR. Box 905614 TXT

CUTE, single mum of 4, 38yrs old, Kent-based, into most things, looking for friendship or possibly romance. Box 897863 TXT

PRETTY, black female, 38, 5ft4, like socialising and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male, 38-42, for a LTR. Box 446684 TXT

LOVELY pretty big-busted lady, 39, medium build, 5ft5, lots of energy! likes the gym, reading, new experiences! seeking a nice man for potential exciting relationship. Box 446724 TXT

I like reading/writing, going out, music. Seeking kind, genuine, honest chap: I'm a 40+ year old woman who enjoys the simple things in life. Box 448542 TXT

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WARM, tactile male, 42, 6ft, likes socialising, pubs, clubs, cosy nights in, seems like minded female, for friendship, leading to more. Box 883867 TXT

BLONDE male, 37, 5ft9, love golf, don't mind a beer, WLTM an open-minded female for good times, maybe a relationship. Box 450544 TXT

LEE, driver, 36yr old, 6ft3, dark hair, like pubs, clubs, wine bars, places of interest, sports and reading, within a woman for friendship and romance. Box 889720 TXT

HONEST 45yr old gent, 5ft10, short hair, enjoy swimming, walking, talking and dvd's, looking for someone similar to her to enjoy life with. Box 446810 TXT

RECENTLY separated man, 46, quite attractive, likes cooking, cuddles on the sofa, country pubs, looking for a warm and bubbly older woman, 60-65, for companionship. Box 451057 TXT

H1, I'm Kevin, 38, mousey blond hair, blue eyes, car mechanic, enjoys boating, looking for a nice, honest, reliable man for a relationship. Box 450917 TXT

LOVING, caring, generous spiritual man, 39, 6ft, dark hair blue eyes, and WLTM romantic, non-smoking guy. Box 903560 TXT

H1, I'm Kevin, 37, 6ft1, medium build, loves cinema, music, walks and the sea, seeking a girl to find love with. Box 449844 TXT

INTERESTS: theatre, music, dancing, cooking, walking, love to talk, laugh and have fun, seeking a normal male for a relationship. Box 449587 TXT

FUN loving, bubbly, tactile lady, 50s, doesn't mind a beer, WLTM an open-minded female for good times, maybe a relationship. Box 446366 TXT

H1, I'm Judith, 40, small, blonde hair, blue eyes, loves the sea and water-sports, cinema, animals; WLTM fun-loving guy for friendship and more. Box 448107 TXT

HELP we write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640 TXT

PETITE, Brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTM genuine male, to see where life takes us!. Box 893562 TXT

HELLO, I'm Nikki, 41yr young, 5ft1, enjoys dining out, cinema and dancing, seeking a male for friendship, possible romance and fun times. Box 444795 TXT

FUN-LOVING female, 42, looking for someone who can make me laugh and enjoys country walks, films, travelling, reading, nice evenings cuddled up. Box 881545 TXT

WLTM a nice guy with a similar nature; I'm an outgoing woman, 42, with brown hair and green eyes, tell me about you! Box 446847 TXT

YOUNG 50s lady, slim, 5ft4, fair hair, a smoker, loves music, going out, cooking, gardening, seeking similar loving, caring, honest male. Box 449288 TXT

OUTGOING lady, 50, enjoys walks along the beach, nights out and in with a quiet bottle of wine, seeks man to love forever! Box 449592 TXT

HONEST & sincere female, 58, tall, GSOH, loves country pubs, coasts, cinema, seeking a man who's a match for me with GSOH for relationship. Box 441622 TXT

LOVING lady looking for companion, 53, 5ft3, medium build, loves dancing, walks and the sea, seeking a girl to find love with. Box 446362 TXT

INTERESTS: theatre, music, dancing, cooking, walking, love to talk, laugh and have fun, seeking a normal male for a relationship. Box 449587 TXT

FRIENDLY guy, 46, 6ft, likes socialising, pubs, clubs, cosy nights in, sees kind female, for friendship, leading to more. Box 883867 TXT

H1, I'm Carl, 40, GSOH, 6ft, light green eyes, brown hair and eyes, good looking for a fun, bubbly woman to share laugh, days out and much more. Box 446362 TXT

OUTGOING, young-minded male, 47, smoker, likes war games, books, cinema, castles, places of interest, seeking similar woman to boogie on the dancefloor with. Box 449834 TXT

GENUINE man, 5ft5, fair hair, medium build, I'm 53, widowed, and ready to make a fresh start. I like the beach, nice weather, classic cars. Box 450853 TXT

MODEST male, 42, 6ft2 with dark hair, stocky, a chef and loving dad, loves cinema, dining out and cosy nights, seeks someone special and fun-loving. Box 450505 TXT

SPONTANEOUS, loving guy, young 44yr old with sea blue eyes, slim build, many varied outdoor pursuits and hoping to meet a fine, young lady. E.Sussex. Box 446120 TXT

SCOTTISH man, 44, living in Kent, clean shaven, medium build, like sport and socialising, looking for a fun-to-be with lady for friendship, hopefully more. Box 450963 TXT

DOWNT-O-EARTH guy, 44, 5ft9, blue eyes, average build, open-minded and easy-going, likes sun bathing, seeking a girl with similar interests. Box 450974 TXT

ROB from Kent, 43, likes all the good things in life, fishing and romantic walks, WLTM a woman of similar age, seeking a nice, attractive, slim female. Box 162939 TXT

FIT and active bodybuilder, 48, 5ft9, blue eyes, average build, open-minded and easy-going, likes sun bathing, seeking a girl with similar interests. Box 450974 TXT

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MEN seeking women

SINGLE dad, 33, 5ft8, slim, medium build, brown eyes, kind, caring, loving - seeking friend first and hopefully something more. Box 448685 TXT

MAIDSTONE male, 33, 6ft, muscular, GSOH, fair hair/blue eyes, like Thai boxing, pubs, having fun, cosy nights in, house/hip hop music, WLTM loving, attractive, slim female. Box 162939 TXT

LOVELY female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large-build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102 TXT

ATTRACTION, fun-loving female, 31, 5ft4, size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Box 308734 TXT

HELLO I'm 35, kind, caring and non-smoking, enjoy cooking, cinema, music, dining in and out, looking for that special someone to enjoy a relationship with. Box 447955 TXT

IM Rachael, 35, medium, enjoys pub, clubs, cosy nights in, cinema, theme parks, looking someone special to share things with. Box 448591 TXT

FAIR-HAIRED female, 35, 5ft, loves the gym, pubs, nights out and fine company, searching for fun bloke, for life, love and laughter. Box 881011 F

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HELLO I'm 35, kind, caring and non-smoking, enjoy cooking, cinema, music, dining in and out, looking for that special someone to enjoy a relationship with. Box 447955 TXT

IM Rachael, 35, medium, enjoys pub, clubs, cosy nights in, cinema, theme parks, looking someone special to share things with. Box 448591 TXT

FAIR-HAIRED female, 35, 5ft, loves the gym, pubs, nights out and fine company, searching for fun bloke, for life, love and laughter. Box 881011 F

LOVELY female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large-build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102 TXT

ATTRACTION, fun-loving female, 31, 5ft4, size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Box 308734 TXT

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RACE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN (PG)



When a Las Vegas taxi-driver picks up two runaway teenagers, he discovers they have supernatural powers and finds himself caught up in the middle of a magical adventure.

MONSTERS VS ALIENS (PG)



When Susan Murphy (Reese Witherspoon) grows to 49ft 11in, she is taken to a secret government compound that houses a selection of monsters who are called upon to save the world.

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Page 52



Good and healthy for Viggo to feel the fear

■ BY SUSAN GRIFFIN

PLAYING Aragorn in The Lord Of The Rings trilogy may have made Viggo Mortensen a household name, but he's still uneasy with fame.

Even now, more than five years on, the 49-year-old with the chiselled cheekbones seems a little shellshocked by the experience.

"The only person who was really world famous when we started making the trilogy was Liv Tyler," he says.

"But that all changed when the first movie came out – it changed things a great deal."

"I'm glad to have been a part of that, primarily because of the friendships I made and I got to spend a lot of time in New Zealand, which is a beautiful country," he says.

"I'll always have a place in my heart for that experience, but on a practical level it also gave me the chance to play roles like Halder."

Viggo's talking about John Halder, the softly-spoken lecturer he depicts in his latest film, Good. Set in 1930s Germany, the movie is different from the typical Nazi-themed fare.

"Hundreds of movies have been made since the war relating to Germans at the time," Viggo explains.

"Even the ones out this year – The Reader, The Boy In The Striped Pyjamas, Defiance – don't really deal with the early '30s, the beginning of it, before people really knew where it would go, before people came to have associations with the swastika. In the early '30s it was just the flag of the country. Most movies are made with the benefit of hindsight. This story's just about regular people."

The film's last scene is particularly powerful. It ends abruptly and unexpectedly, leaving



VIGGO MORTENSEN: Superstar still uneasy with fame

viewers to digest what they've just seen. "The best stories are the ones that when the screen goes black at the end, you ask yourself 'Well, now what?'" Viggo says.

"It's more of an implosion than an explosion at the end. It has this nagging quality that makes you revisit and reconsider the film."

Defying popular movie convention, the entire cast speak with English accents.

"I think it makes total sense. Sometimes it's just disconcerting when it's a mixture, like in Valkyrie," Viggo says.

VIEW THIS PREVIEW

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"The problem is that no matter how good the dialogue and how well the story's told, some people are listening to how you're speaking, not what you're speaking about."

Good marks a departure from the action films Viggo's been associated with recently, particularly A History Of Violence and Eastern Promises.

"I do think about challenging myself," he says, when asked how he chooses roles.

"Say it's a good story and it's a character I could feasibly play, then the question is, is there something scary about it?"

"Is there a risk that I might not be able to pull it off? If that's there, that's the final incentive because I think a little fear is healthy. It forces you to push yourself."

GOOD
Certificate 15

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Cinema

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Thur 30 April



► Bram Stoker's Dracula 18

Fri – 8.50pm

► The Class (Entre les Murs) 15

Fri – 6.20pm, Sat – 8.50pm, Sun – 6.20pm & 8.50pm,
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► Barry Lyndon PG

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YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY TOM BETTS

THE HOSPITAL

Channel 4, 9pm, Tuesday

THE APPRENTICE

BBC1, 9pm, Wednesday

CONGRATULATIONS must go to Channel 4 for their new documentary series *The Hospital* – which proves that sometimes the best drama is right under our noses.

The first two episodes were especially brilliant, as we looked at the ways a typical NHS casualty deals with the horrors of the weekend.

Binge-drinking hordes crashed through the swinging doors in a seemingly never-ending stream of stupidity.

Stumbling around in their droves, shouting, vomiting and swearing their way into the staff's bad books, it was difficult not to feel sorry for those who have to deal with the fall out of a typical weekend as Britain blows off steam.

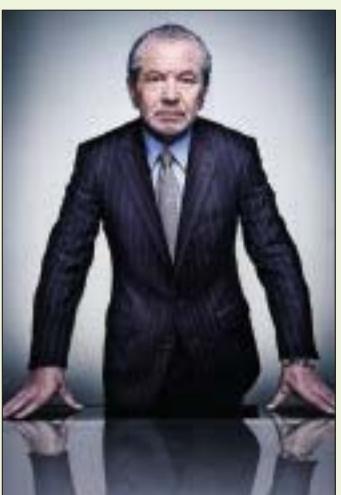
It brought home just how much the fights, drunkenness and all round bad behaviour seem to have become little more than par for the course.

It was interspersed with more pressing matters too, moments which – when set against the treatment of drunken teenagers who perhaps brought their own fate on themselves – were heart-breaking and disturbing in equal measure.

Especially moving was the access to the family who came to the ward after their son – and brother – had been involved in a major accident from which he would never wake.

Access to this kind of thing, even if it was very upsetting, is to be applauded and *The Hospital* is a slice of extraordinary television that deserves your attention.

After a rather lacklustre start (when



SWEET: Sir Alan Sugar is on fine form dealing with his wannabe apprentices this series

one contestant even pulled out before the first task) it's good to see the latest series of *The Apprentice* picking up a bit of steam.

Never really boring, the hour zips by and before you know it Sir Al, is in the boardroom dispensing the insults and giving the finger to some hapless wannabe.

It's difficult to say that anyone has really shone so far, so all bets are still off, but how Noorul hasn't got the boot God alone knows.

You never know; perhaps tonight's the night.

If I were a betting man I'd probably have a sly fiver on that Geordie chap Philip, mainly as he seems the least likely to drop a major clanger.

Alan Sugar has been on fine form too and seems even less tolerant than in previous series, which means we can expect more classic phrases like "a load of old toot" and that's never a bad thing.

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At the end of the cruise we disembark after breakfast in Marseilles and take the TGV to Lille or Paris where we join the Eurostar to St Pancras, London, arriving early-to-mid evening.

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YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

NEGOTIATING a property deal looks good this week. This is a wonderful time to buy or sell a piece of property. Be prepared to negotiate for a better interest rate. This could save you a large amount of hard-earned cash. A long awaited cheque could finally arrive.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

IT may be time to take a romantic relationship a step further. If you're looking for love, you could find it inside a professional organisation. A friend is encouraging you to take a creative risk. It's time to expand your repertoire, even if you're not sure how to proceed.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753

LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

TALKS with your boss will be productive. Go ahead and ask for a rise. It's long overdue. If you're looking for a job, you could find a lucrative one in your desired field. An unexpected refund, inheritance or gift makes life a little bit easier. Take the time to smell the flowers.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

TALKS with a business contact or romantic partner will be productive. Be honest, but constructive when you speak your mind. You have a tendency to hit below the belt when you get angry. If you avoid this temptation, you'll soon reach a new understanding.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

YOU could be making a very serious long-term commitment this week. Having a supportive person in your corner will make life much easier. You're tired of having the weight of the world on your shoulders. Fortunately, your partner is poised to assume their share of the burden.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763

GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

A PLUM career position could become available. Be ready to compete for it. There will be many intimidating rivals for this spot, but you could end up getting the top spot. The key is to emphasise your versatility. Friendship could turn to romance with very little effort.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754

VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

YOUR patience helps you acquire some valuable insight and expertise. Teaching, writing or lecturing could put extra money in your pocket. It's possible you could get an all expenses paid trip to share your knowledge. If you're single, you have a good chance of finding love.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

IT'S important to get the treatment you need for a minor health or stress problems before it really gets you down. Things are looking good on the home front. This is a great week to host a big family gathering or invite the neighbours round for a drink or a coffee.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

PUTTING your hard-won knowledge to work will be very satisfying. This is your chance to prove just how valuable you are to the people around you. A note or phone call gives your spirits a lift. It's nice to know your powers of attraction are operating at full strength.

- To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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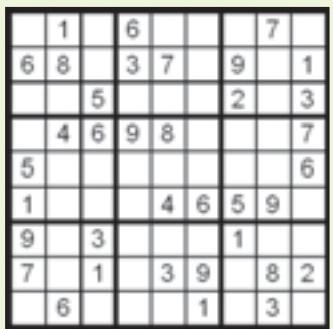
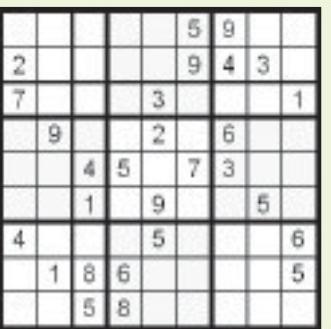
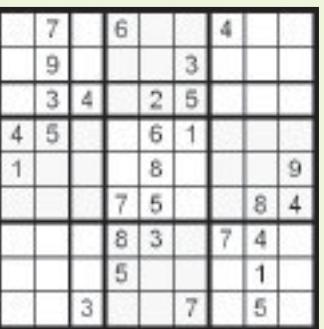


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No84

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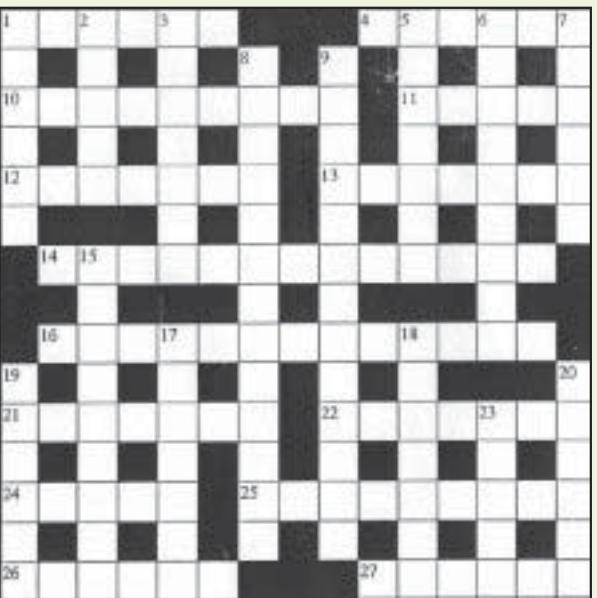
Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9

EASY**MEDIUM****HARD****CRYPTIC CLUES****ACROSS**

- 1 Assumed I could have included practitioner (6)
 4 After six, Greek character took Mum into deity (6)
 10 Put into play (9)
 11 Enlist short turn in Parisian style first (5)
 12 Give new vigour to computer? (7)
 13 Less than 50 per cent of hot flat cooked (3,4)
 14 Got round state with liking for something that comes with experience (8,5)
 16 A Nile conquest could be following as a result (13)
 21 Enquire about an establishment indirectly (7)
 22 Indeed extra lines included turning to the right (7)
 24 One in bewilderment had cereal (5)
 25 Grasp purse in America lady might be carrying (6,3)
 26 Vague Mary with Ed confused (6)
 27 Player's boots I repaired (6)

DOWN

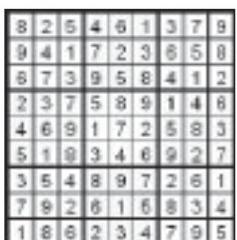
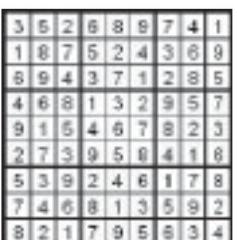
- 1 Recent form ships followed (6)
 2 Grumpy diminutive person (5)
 3 French cat going over water at castle (7)
 5 Still one article on type of selling (7)
 6 Simple brew (6,3)
 7 Morally raise higher, 51 feet (6)
 8 Regular recurrence on radio (4,9)
 9 Diminutive lady had terrible sensational book (5-8)
 15 Timely way to go (9)
 17 Star before morning light (7)
 18 One might hail its advance (7)
 19 Stuck in the traffic? (6)
 20 Frustate bandleader Ray (6)
 23 Priest to grab bionic part (5)

SCRIBBLE HERE**QUICK CLUES****ACROSS**

- 1 Burlesque (6)
 4 Congestion of events (6)
 10 Fragrance (9)
 11 Devil (5)
 12 Russian dramatist (7)
 13 Alight (7)
 14 Successful run (7,6)
 16 Too difficult to understand (5,4,4)
 21 In a nervous state (7)
 22 Shorter and thicker (7)
 24 Chemically inactive (5)
 25 Round boiled sweet (9)
 26 Web (6)
 27 Soporific (6)

DOWN

- 1 Buccaneering (6)
 2 Dirge (anag.) (5)
 3 Sea-mammal (7)
 5 Senior citizen (7)
 6 Cajun dish (9)
 7 Membrane enveloping brain (6)
 8 Game between unequals (6,7)
 9 Words at start of race (5,6,2)
 15 Intermediate (2-7)
 17 Of plants (7)
 18 Hit in baseball (4,3)
 19 Whimsical (6)
 20 Dowdy (6)
 23 Snow-house (5)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS**SUDOKU SOLUTIONS No83****EASY****MEDIUM****HARD**

Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No83

- ACROSS:** 8 Pertinent 9 Horny 10 Stipulate
 11 Asset 12 Revised Version 15 Pear 17
 Moped 19 Daze 21 Requisitioning 23 Toast
 24 Jackknife 26 Ranee 27 Insomniac.
DOWN: 1 Jester 2 Stopover 3 Uncle Sam
 4 Grat 5 Theatre 6 Brassica 7 Bystander
 13 Depot 14 Spare tyre 16 Acquaint 18
 Door knob 19 Designing 20 Sixteen 22
 Guffaw 25 Aunt.

QUICK SOLUTION No84

- 19 Quaint 20 Furry 23 Igloo
 26 Tangle 27 Smoozy 28 Home run
 29 15-in-between 27 Geegah 28 Home run
 7 Minix 8 Unseen 9 Ready Steady
 7 Mixing 5 Pothole 6 Furniture Guard
 2 Rude 22 Dumper 24 Inter 25 Superlum
 11 Demon 12 Thicker 13 Detain 14
 15 Hitting streak 16 Loose ends head 21
 17 Dismay 18 Logjam 19 Redefine
 20 15-in-between 21 Geegah 22 Home run
 26 Tangle 27 Smoozy 28 Home run
 29 15-in-between 27 Geegah 28 Home run

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PROPERTY NEWS

Equity erosion and high deposits take their toll

HOME purchase lending has increased and remortgaging declined, according to the most recent figures available to the Council of Mortgage Lenders.

There was a four per cent increase in house purchase loans in February, although activity remained weak at a third of the average number of loans witnessed for the month over the last few years.

There was also a 20 per cent decrease in remortgaging for the month.

A spokesman said: "We expect demand for remortgaging to remain muted as lenders' standard variable rates are attractive compared with new mortgage pricing, and house price falls continue to erode equity levels."

Although first-time-buyer loans were significantly lower than previous averages for the month, there was a seven per cent increase from January, with deposits typically standing at 25 per cent – a new record for residential mortgages.

The CML said the tight lending criteria for first-time-buyers meant such deposits "remain out of reach for all but the most affluent buyers, for example people returning to home ownership after a period of renting, divorcees or those who get financial assistance from their family".

Social housing overhaul planned by Tory Party

PLANS to overhaul the social housing structure have been announced by the Conservative Party.

The Tories say they want to address antisocial behaviour and encourage social responsibility, as well as 'bring back pride' to neighbourhoods.

The proposals include:

- Rewards for good behaviour: offering tenants with a record of five years' good tenant behaviour a ten per cent equity share in their social rented property, which can be cashed in when they want to move up the housing ladder.
- A 'right to move' for good tenants who wish to move to other social sector properties.
- Local housing trusts: allowing villages and towns to create new community-led bodies with planning powers to develop local homes for local people, provided there is strong community backing.
- More family homes and stopping garden-grabbing: reversing the classification of gardens as brownfield land, and allowing councils to prevent over-development.



GENERATION NEXT: It is estimated that some 1.6 million 18- to 34-year-olds are living rent-free with parents, family or friends in the UK in the wake of the credit crunch

Rent-free 'kidults' rely on family and friends

■ BY NICK AMES

MORE young people than ever before are living rent-free with family and friends in a bid to save money to get on the property ladder, according to new research

Getting a helping hand from parents, relatives or mates is increasingly being seen as the only way for many to fund the bigger deposit needed to get mortgages in the wake of the credit crunch.

This is particularly the case in the South East and London, where house prices are higher than the rest of the UK.

The new study by Abbey Mortgages found about 1.6 million people aged 18 to 34 are now living rent-free with family and friends.

The number is up from 500,000 this time last year, with the south of England witness-

ing the largest increase in the number of what are being termed 'kidults'.

Abbey says the money-saving trend is not particular to one specific group, and some 300,000 35- to 54-year-olds have also found themselves in the same position.

Combined, it is estimated the total number of kidults in the UK are saving some £839 million, according to the mortgage provider.

With the average first-time-buyer now aged 29, Abbey says it has timed this research to coincide with the launch of a new range of mortgages specifically for them.

Nicci Audhlam-Gardiner, Abbey's mortgage director, said: "In the current climate many people have little choice but to return home or turn to their friends or family for somewhere

to live at no cost. While an adult living at home until they are in their 30s is more associated with our Continental cousins, Abbey Mortgages research shows that this is a trend that is on the increase here in the UK as well."

In areas where house prices are traditionally the most expensive, there were higher numbers of kidults, with more than 270,000 adults in London alone living rent-free.

Those living in the south of the country are twice as likely to live with others rent-free compared with those living in the North East and North West, the study found.

Ms Audhlam-Gardiner said: "At Abbey we are committed to helping first-time buyers and last week launched a new mortgage designed especially with them in mind."

"The 85 per cent LTV four-year fix is market-leading and also has £250 cashback, free valuation and free legal."

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- Prestigious Development
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- Two Reception Rooms

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- New Build Chalet Bungalow
- Rural Location
- Countryside Views To Rear
- 120ft Front Garden
- No Onward Chain

- Ample Off Street Parking
- Three Bedrooms
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- Three Bedrooms
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- Some Modernisation Required

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- Refurbished End Of Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
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- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Receptions
- First Floor Bathroom / WC

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- Three Bedroom Cottage
- Popular Village Location
- Off Street Parking To Rear
- No Chain

STROOD**£144,995**strood@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9737

- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Conservatory
- Off Street Parking

STROOD**£174,995**strood@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9737

- Three Bedroom Family Home
- Conservatory
- Off Street Parking For Approx 4 Vehicles

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- Rural Village Location
- Farmland Views To Rear
- Parking & Garage
- No Chain

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- Charming Character Property
- Detached Coach House
- Three Bedrooms
- Conservatory

CHATHAM**£136,995**walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738

- Semi-detached Home
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Off Street Parking
- DG Where Stated

CHATHAM**£112,500**walderslade@your-move.co.uk 0845 370 9738

- End Of Terrace House
- Kitchen/Dining Room
- Gas Central Heating System
- No Chain

CHATHAM**£349,995**chatham@your-move.co.uk**0845 370 9732**

- Three Double Bedrooms
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- Lounge And Separate Dining Room
- Extensive Gardens

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MANN Countrywide

Chatham Office Tel: 01634 843277
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Gillingham Office Tel: 01634 851008
88 High Street, Gillingham, Kent ME7 1AX

Rainham Office Tel: 01634 374953
11 High Street, Rainham, Kent ME8 7HX

Rochester Office Tel: 01634 812697
150 High Street, Rochester, Kent ME1 1ER

Strood Office Tel: 01634 715401
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Rochester OIEO £300,000

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Rochester £175,000

Two bedroom terrace house in the sought after location of Bishops Square.

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Gillingham OIEO £175,000

Two bedroom retirement apartment, double glazed, allocated parking.

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Gillingham £169,995

Three bedroom extended end of terrace house, downstairs cloakroom.

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Rochester OIEO £160,000

Three bedroom house, central heating, double glazing, two reception rooms.

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Hoo OIEO £160,000

Three bedroom semi-detached house in a desirable location.

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GILLINGHAM, KENT, ME7 2PQ
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Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

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Chattenden £154,950

This four bedroom semi-detached home is one not to be missed

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Isle Of Grain Offers Over £140,000

Three bedroom house set on 110' wide plot. Features include kitchen/diner.

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Chatham £130,000

Two bedroom Terrace House, Sought after location, no onward chain.

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Chatham £130,000

No Onward Chain, Three Bedroom End of Terrace town house, double glazed.

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Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

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Rainham OIEO £119,950

2 double bedroom terrace cottage, 2 separate reception room, no chain.

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Gillingham £115,000

3 separate bedroom house, garage, driveway, central heating, double glazing.

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Chatham Asking Price £98,000

Three Bedrooms, Downstairs Bathroom, Popular Location, some Refurbishment.

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Gillingham £90,000

2 bed top floor maisonette, 1 reception room, gated driveway for off road parking.

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Rochester Asking Price £85,000

One bedroom ground floor flat, off road parking, c gardens, close to local shops.

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Gillingham £84,995

2 bedroom house, no chain, lounge, kitchen/dining room, central heating.

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Chattenden



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Cliffe Woods



£285,000

4 Bed house, sought after location. Features an integral garage, 2 receptions, cloakroom and fitted kitchen.

Cliffe



£185,000

Extended five bed house. Features integral garage, extended fitted kitchen, utility area and cloakroom.

Isle of Grain



£174,995

Substantially extended four bed detached house, no forward chain, kitchen diner, conservatory and garage.

Stroud



£168,995

3 bed semi-detached, popular residential crescent. Double glazing, central heating, fitted kitchen, conservatory.

Hoo



OIEO £160,000

Two bedroom semi home. Features double glazing, fitted kitchen/diner, upstairs bathroom and off road parking.

Stroud



£135,000

3 Bed terrace with off road parking, double glazing, fitted kitchen and two receptions. Highly Recommended.

Allhallows



£110,000

Superb two bedroom with fitted kitchen, en-suite to master, allocated parking, private garden and superb view.

Stroud



OIEO £95,000

1 bed ground floor flat with rear garden. Has been refurbished throughout in 2008, ideal for first time buyers.

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Rochester | £340,000 - £380,000

- Modern Style Town
- 2 Ensuites, Family Bathroom And Wc
- 3 Floors, River Views To The Rear

ROCHESTER OFFICE | 01634 830925



Walderslade Woods | £265,000 - £295,000

- 5 Bed Ext Det, 3 Recp
- 2 Baths, En Suite
- Utility Room

WALDERSLADE OFFICE | 01634 865661



Rainham | £250,000 - £270,000

- 4 Bedroom Detached, Integral Garage,
- Central Heating & Double Glazing, En-Suite To
- Master, Downstairs Cloakroom, Driveway

RAINHAM OFFICE | 01634 373531



Walderslade | £190,000 - £210,000

- Stunning Refurbished
- 2 Bed Bung, Cons,
- Garage

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Cliffe Woods | £190,000 - £215,000

- 4 Bed Extended Semi
- 2 Receptions, Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Utility Room, Ground Floor Cloakroom

STROOD OFFICE | 01634-716597



Gillingham | £185,000 - £205,000

- 2 Bedroom Detached Bungalow,
- Detached Garage And Drive,
- Front And Rear Garden, No Chain!

LOWER GILLINGHAM OFFICE | 01634 851191



Frindsbury | £130,000 - £145,000

- 3 Bed Terrace
- Sought After Close, Lounge/Diner,
- Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room

STROOD OFFICE | 01634-716597



Gillingham | £118,000 - £130,000

- 3 Separate Beds, Downstairs Bathroom,
- Through Lounge, Double Glazing,
- Garden To Rear, Stamp Duty Exempt!

UPPER GILLINGHAM OFFICE | 01634 281155



Chatham | £ 65,000 - £ 85,000

- 1 Bedroom Purpose Built Flat
- Parking, Near Mainline Railway
- Stamp Duty Exempt Flash Required

CHATHAM OFFICE | 01634 841243



Chatham: 01634 841243 Upper Gillingham: 01634 281155 Lower Gillingham: 01634 851191

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MOTORS NEWS



Super Cupra is ready to shine this summer

SEAT has unveiled a new-look Cupra sporting flagship for this summer. The 2.0-litre 237bhp/240PS turbocharged engine is carried over from before, but the Cupra's lowered 'track car' style has been enhanced by new front and back ends.

A set of 18-inch alloys and gloss black door mirror housings add to muscular style. The cabin features aluminium pedals and racing/bucket style seats.

Top speed is 153 mph and 0-62mph sprint takes 6.4 seconds with an average 34mpg. Prices are to be announced.



Renault making prices fall for the Scenic route

HAVING invented the people carrier/MPV type with the original Espace and Scenic models, Renault has had to play catch up.

But aggressive pricing from £14,995 for the new seven-seat Grand Scenic could be a bid to restore market share.

That brings an Extreme 1.6 petrol version costing £1,060 less than the current equivalent, while the likely best-selling Dynamique trim with the same engine is £660 less. Standard kit is impressive – the newcomer arriving on 15 May.



Fabia newcomer scouts out more Skoda sales

SKODA has carved a nice little niche by creating rugged Scout versions of key models. And those needing a supermini workhorse may be tempted by the new Fabia Scout, arriving in late May and based on the practical estate body.

Unlike the bigger Octavia Scout it is not four-wheel drive, but does have a durable front bumper and cladding for extra protection, while roof-rails boost its load-lugging potential. Two petrol and two diesel engines are offered, but the Czech brand has yet to confirm prices.



IMAGE CONSCIOUS: The Dodge Journey also comes generously 'loaded' with kit in the American way and the ride is decent, but the car does not feel as taut and sporty as looks would suggest.

Journey could be Dodge way to wooing UK buyers

ROAD TEST DODGE JOURNEY

■ BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal



Image



Space



Value



Running costs



Reliability



Green rating



Admittedly, the interior still looks off the pace compared with rivals such as the VW Touran and sector-leading Vauxhall Zafira, but there are signs that Chrysler has been listening to British buyers.

The car is also available with the 140bhp 2.0-litre VW diesel that has become a stalwart across Chrysler brands. It suits current market demand, being sufficiently lively yet clean and economical, aided by a decent six-speed manual shift.

A 170bhp 2.4-litre petrol unit is the only alternative; it is livelier, but thirsty too, and you need to be daft to opt for that, even if the diesel sounds a bit lumpy at times.

Needless to say, the Dodge also comes generously 'loaded' with kit in the American way and the ride is decent, but the car does not feel as taut and sporty as its looks would suggest.

Nevertheless, the Journey is aptly named and likely to tempt buyers to this relatively new brand, especially in price-sensitive times, with standard kit including climate control, under-floor stowage, tilt and slide rear seats, 90-degree opening rear doors for easier access, electronic stability control, hill start assist, tyre pressure monitoring and front, side and curtain airbags.



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98 VOLKSWAGEN SHARAN 2.8 CARAT VR6, 5dr, manula, 5spd, MPV, petrol, 108,000 miles, metallic silver, 2 owners, air conditioning, alloy wheels, fsh, taxed until Aug, Mot until March 2009	£2495 P/X WELCOME	T FIAT PUNTO 60 TEAM 1.25CC, silver, 62000 miles, 12months, Taxed until May	£1295
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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

FORD FOCUS



BRITAIN'S favourite car. Or is it? Some say it's number one through Ford's formidable market share. Fair point, but the Focus is also great to drive, practical, well-made and blessed with good engines. For second-hand buyers there is a fantastic choice of power - including the rapid ST - trim levels and body styles: a smart saloon and estate plus a coupé convertible. The car's popularity and ordinary looks are a weakness though and reason enough for some buyers to look elsewhere.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

AFFORDABLE FAMILY HATCHBACKS

WANT to downsize yet still run a car that does it all? Start shopping for a family hatchback; it seats five, can be crammed like a small van and represents a good balance of space, flexibility and economy... providing you don't go for the 'hot hatch' version. Competition is tough in this sector too, so there are few duds to beware of. Our trio here are affordable and should each give excellent service even if they offer differing propositions on street credibility – the Almera was axed primarily for its dull image.

NISSAN ALMERA



NISSAN always struggled to glamorise the Almera, but devotees cherished its solid build and reliability. Used car buyers love it even more for its modest prices, though good ones can still fetch decent money. The five-door is the winner for all-round versatility, but the rarer three-door is sportier looking. The balance of driver appeal and ride is also well-judged and Nissan kept specs high to maintain the car's competitiveness in a tough sector before finally throwing in the towel.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

MAZDA



MAZDA'S close relationship with Ford means a lot of Focus resides beneath the skin of the Mazda3 and that means neat handling. Yet that skin also makes the Mazda stand out from its ubiquitous half-sister – a fact not lost on used car buyers looking for something distinctive. The '3' is mostly found as a capacious hatchback, but there is also a sporty saloon that shares few panels with it. Engines are lively, in line with Mazda's sporty 'Zoom-Zoom' image.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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Fiesta						
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06 56 Fiesta 1.4 Freedom 5dr silver PAS CD ABS brakes alloys airbags c/locking	£6,499					
06 56 Fiesta 1.25 Style Clim 3dr silver aircon CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking heated screen	£6,499					
07 57 Fiesta 1.25 Style 5dr silver CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking	£6,799					
07 07 Fiesta 1.25 Silver 3dr tonic blue CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking alloys	£6,799					
07 57 Fiesta 1.4 Style 5dr amethyst CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking	£6,799					
06 06 Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 5dr black aircon CD PAS abs brakes fog electrics airbags c/locking alloys	£6,799					
06	55	Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 5dr tango aircon CD PAS abs brakes fog bags electrics airbags c/locking alloys	£6,999			
06 06 Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 5dr silver amethyst leather PAS CD ABS brake fog electrics aircon c/locking			06	55	Fiesta 1.4 Style 5dr tango aircon CD PAS abs brakes fog bags electrics airbags c/locking	£6,999
07 57 Fiesta 1.25 Style 5dr tonic CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking			07	57	Fiesta 1.25 Silver 3dr tonic blue aircon CD PAS ABS brakes airbags c/locking	£6,999
07 57 Fiesta 1.25 Style Clim 3dr silver aircon CD PAS ABS brakes fog electrics c/locking			07	57	Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Clim 3dr amethyst aircon CD PAS abs brakes fog bags electrics airbags c/locking	£6,999
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07 57 Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 3dr silver aircon CD PAS ABS brakes fog bags electrics c/locking			07	57	Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 5dr silver aircon CD PAS ABS brakes fog bags electrics c/locking	£6,999
07 57 Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 3dr black aircon r/c/locking			07	57	Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 3dr black aircon r/c/locking	£7,499
07 57 Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 3dr silver black aircon r/c/locking			07	57	Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 3dr amethyst black aircon r/c/locking	£7,499
08 08 Fiesta 1.25 Style Clim 3dr ocean blue aircon CD PAS abs brakes fog electrics airbags c/locking alloys			08	08	Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Clim 3dr ocean blue silver CD PAS abs brakes fog electrics airbags c/locking	£7,799
08 08 Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 3dr silver aircon CD PAS ABS brakes fog bags electrics c/locking			08	08	Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 3dr silver aircon CD PAS abs brakes fog electrics airbags c/locking	£7,799
08 08 Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 3dr amethyst black aircon r/c/locking			07	07	Fiesta 1.4 Zetec Clim 3dr ocean blue silver CD PAS abs brakes fog electrics airbags c/locking	£7,799
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FABIA	1 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDI 70 BHP (DIESEL)	GD08FMO	JULY '08	8132	STORM BLUE	£8,290.00
FABIA	ELEGANCE 5DR ESTATE	1.4 16v 100 BHP (PETROL)	Y506TKM	APRIL '01	69629	DIAMOND SILVER	£3,990.00
FABIA	ELEGANCE 5DR ESTATE	2.0 MPV (PETROL)	GK52XHM	OCTOBER '02	35377	OCEAN GREEN	£4,790.00
FABIA	ELEGANCE 5DR ESTATE	1.9 TD 100 BHP (DIESEL)	HF04WVZ	JUNE '04	60067	STONE GREY	£4,490.00
OCTAVIA	GLXI 5DR HATCH	2.0 MPV (PETROL)	GF730BW	OCTOBER '00	72592	PETROL GREEN	£2,990.00
OCTAVIA	CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.6 FSi 105 BHP (PETROL)	GF50TTI	APRIL '05	24853	STONE GREY	£5,790.00
OCTAVIA	CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.9 TD 105 BHP (DIESEL)	AE56DPJ	JUNE '06	29631	FLAMENCO RED	£8,490.00
OCTAVIA	AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	2.0 FSi AUTO (PETROL)	GK55NWR	OCTOBER '05	31887	GRAPHITE GREY	£6,990.00
OCTAVIA	AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI DSG (DIESEL)	EF07LHR	MAY '07	59559	DYNAMIC BLUE	£8,990.00
OCTAVIA	ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.6 FSi 105 BHP (PETROL)	GK56VEF	SEPTEMBER '06	59559	CANDY WHITE	£6,790.00
OCTAVIA	ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TD 105 BHP (DIESEL)	GD06CNN	JULY '06	35995	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£8,990.00
OCTAVIA	VRS 5DR HATCH	2.0 TD 170 BHP (DIESEL)	GF57HKO	OCTOBER '07	3751	CORRIEDA RED	£13,890.00
SUPERB	COMFORT 4DR SALOON	1.9 TD 130 BHP (DIESEL)	GJ52WCA	DECEMBER '02	59701	CANADIAN GREEN	£5,490.00
SUPERB	ELEGANCE 4DR SALOON	2.0 TDI DSG (DIESEL)	GJ58MMX	SEPTEMBER '08	2340	CANDY WHITE	£18,490.00

Ex-Demonstrator Sale - Huge Savings!

MAKE	MODEL	ENGINE	REG/YEAR	MILES	COLOUR	PRICE NEW	SAVING	PRICE TO YOU
FABIA	1 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDI 70 BHP (DIESEL)	2008 - 58	TBA	SATIN GREY	£10,855.00	£2,365.00	£8,490.00
FABIA	2 5DR HATCH	1.2 12v 70 BHP (PETROL)	2008 - 58	TBA	DYNAMIC BLUE	£10,350.00	£2,060.00	£8,290.00
FABIA	2 5DR HATCH	1.4 TD 80 BHP (DIESEL)	2008 - 08	TBA	SATIN GREY	£12,185.00	£3,695.00	£8,490.00
FABIA	2 5DR HATCH	1.4 TD 80 BHP (DIESEL)	2008 - 58	TBA	BLACK MAGIC	£12,240.00	£2,450.00	£9,790.00
FABIA	2 5DR HATCH	1.4 TD 80 BHP (DIESEL)	2008 - 58	TBA	TANGERINE ORANGE	£12,560.00	£2,570.00	£9,990.00
FABIA	2 5DR HATCH	1.9 TD 105 BHP (DIESEL)	2008 - 58	TBA	SATIN GREY	£12,925.00	£2,455.00	£10,490.00
FABIA	2 5DR HATCH	1.9 TD 105 BHP (DIESEL)	2008 - 58	TBA	SATIN GREY	£13,310.00	£2,820.00	£10,490.00
FABIA	3 5DR HATCH	1.9 TD 105 BHP (DIESEL)	2008 - 58	TBA	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£13,310.00	£2,820.00	£10,490.00
FABIA	3 5DR HATCH	1.9 TD 105 BHP (DIESEL)	2008 - 58	TBA	BLACK MAGIC	£14,315.00	£2,825.00	£11,490.00
FABIA	2 5DR ESTATE	1.4 16v 85 BHP (PETROL)	2008 - 08	12177	STORM BLUE	£12,330.00	£3,350.00	£8,980.00
FABIA	2 5DR ESTATE	1.6 16v AUTO (PETROL)	2008 - 58	TBA	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE	£13,355.00	£2,365.00	£11,990.00
FABIA	2 5DR ESTATE	1.4 TD 80 BHP (DIESEL)	2008 - 58	TBA	CORRIADA RED	£12,490.00	£2,500.00	£9,990.00
FABIA	3 5DR ESTATE	1.6 16v 105 BHP (PETROL)	2008 - 08	7645	BRILLIANT SILVER	£13,635.00	£3,645.00	£9,990.00
ROOMSTER	LEVEL 3 5DR MPV	1.4 TD 80 BHP (DIESEL)	2008 - 58	TBA	ANTHRACITE GREY	£14,735.00	£3,745.00	£10,990.00
OCTAVIA	AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.8T 160 BHP (PETROL)	2008 - 58	TBA	DIAMOND SILVER	£15,190.00	£3,700.00	£11,490.00
OCTAVIA	AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TD 105 BHP (DIESEL)	2008 - 57	10585	BRILLIANT SILVER	£15,150.00	£3,810.00	£11,340.00
OCTAVIA	ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.6 FSi 105 BHP (PETROL)	2008 - 58	TBA	FLAMENCO RED	£14,665.00	£2,175.00	£12,490.00
OCTAVIA	ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TD 105 BHP (DIESEL)	2008 - 58	TBA	SATIN GREY	£16,170.00	£3,680.00	£12,490.00
OCTAVIA	ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	2.0 TD 130 DSG (DIESEL)	2009 - 58	TBA	FLAMENCO RED	£19,185.00	£3,195.00	£15,990.00
OCTAVIA	AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	2.0 TD 140 BHP (DIESEL)	2008 - 58	TBA	CORRIADA RED	£17,105.00	£4,115.00	£12,990.00
OCTAVIA	AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	2.0 TDI DSG (DIESEL)	2008 - 08	TBA	STORM BLUE	£18,615.00	£5,625.00	£12,990.00
OCTAVIA	L&K 5DR ESTATE	2.0 FSi AUTO (PETROL)	2008 - 08	TBA	ISLAND GREEN	£20,595.00	£4,775.00	£15,820.00
OCTAVIA	ELEGANCE 4DR SALOON	2.0 TDI DSG (DIESEL)	2009 - 58	TBA	ROSSO BRUNELLO	£24,010.00	£5,020.00	£18,990.00

Sherlodge Garage

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CITROEN

C-1.4 HDI SX 3dr, ly06www, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, driver airbag, folding rear seats, electric mirrors, immobiliser, head restraints, passenger airbag, radio/cd, power assisted steering, rear headrests, remote locking, side airbags, 806 miles was, blue, 40000 miles, £4995, Gravesend, 01795 429802 (TRADE)

FORD

C-MAX, 1.8TDCI TITANIUM 5dr, ej08xrp, titanium x pack, privacy glass, rain sensing wipers, abs, adjustable seats, leather seats, immobiliser, met paintwork, passenger airbag, pas, black, 3629 miles, £1995, Sittingbourne, 01795 422693 (TRADE)

C-MAX, 1.8TDCI ZETEC 5dr, ra08hyj, metallic moondust, with over 00 ford cars in stock today, contact the used car team for more help, all vehicles come with balance of 3 year insurance group:7, silver, 4000 miles, £1900, Sittingbourne, 01795 422693 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 ZETEC 5dr [Climate], oe08kjd, adjustable seats, air conditioning, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door mirrors, heated front windscreen, insurance group:4, black, 16609 miles, £8490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCI Zetec 5dr, gk58vvc, metallic squeeze, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, heated screen, metallic paintwork, insurance group:4, green, 7000 miles, £1095, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Freedom 3dr, gk07wmx, adjustable seats, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, insurance group:4, blue, 18956 miles, £7495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 TDCi Zetec S 3dr, gk08ujd, adjustable seats, air conditioning, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, blue tooth, bluetooth voice control, silver, 10679 miles, £8995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 5dr [Climate] Sport & Tech Pack, ad08xok, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports pack, tech pack, insurance group:5, blue, 12156 miles, £8495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Style 3dr, gfo6awa, adjustable seats, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:4, red, 5212 miles, £5995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 5dr [Climate], gk09ode, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, sideskirts, spoiler, tinted glass, insurance group:4, red, 4000 miles, £12495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec 5dr [Climate], gk09phj, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, sideskirts, spoiler, tinted glass, insurance group:4, black, 7609 miles, £6795, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCi Style 5dr, nx58od, adjustable seats, air conditioning, driver airbag, electric mirrors, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:5, silver, 34398 miles, £6795, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec Climate 3dr, ye54hkh, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio, 11168 miles, £8995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 2.0 Zetec 5dr, eo08ojv, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door, folding rear seats, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, multi function steering wheel, power assisted steering, side airbags, radio/cd multichanger, spoiler, tinted glass, traction control, insurance group:8, black, 35560 miles, £5490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3i COLLECTION 7dr, w5f4tv, central locking, computer, driver airbag, rear headrests, air conditioning, insurance group:3, silver, 39614 miles, £3990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3i Zetec [70] 3dr [Climate], lv08jwe, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, remote locking, rear headrests, insurance group:4, blue, 4701 miles, £6995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3i Collection [70] 3dr, gk56ukt, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:4, red, 5212 miles, £5995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5dr [6], gk57wsj, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, remote locking, rear headrests, insurance group:4, grey, 14995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 1.8 TDCi Zetec 5dr [6], gk08zhg, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, insurance group:4, black, 21979 miles, £12995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0 TDCi Titanium X 4dr, gl08abv, adjustable steering column/wheel, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, headlight washers, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, insurance group:9, dvd nav, sports pack, keyless entry, 8 way power seat, power passenger seat, park assist, xenons, privacy glass, ivdc with cdc cruise control, please call les bellchambers for more details, blue, 22302 miles, £16995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0 Zetec 5dr, eo08ojv, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio/cd, rear headrests, electric heated door, folding rear seats, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, multi function steering wheel, power assisted steering, side airbags, radio/cd multichanger, spoiler, tinted glass, traction control, insurance group:8, black, 35567 miles, £4990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

NEW FIESTA VAN, panel van, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty: 2 seater, white, 8 miles, £9999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER, TIPPER, ac58efwv, 143 ps, tipper, max weight 875 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, warranted mileage, white, 25 miles, £10999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER, Pick Up XLT Thunder Double Cab **AUTO + 20 ALLOY*, lv58kmz, 156 ps, double cab, air conditioning, alloy wheels, cd player, electric windows, full leather, rear park assist, high roof, hp+leasing, warranty: 5 seater, silver, 16538 miles, £14995, Gravesend, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

RANGER, Pick Up Regular TD 4WD, gl07tww, double cab, air conditioning, alloy wheels, cd player, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, side airbags, spoiler, please contact les bellchambers, insurance group:7, 21, 21979 miles, £12995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER, Pick Up XLT Double Cab TD 4WD, gl07tww, double cab, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, pcp, black, 150 miles, £10995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

RANGER, Pick Up XLT Thunder Double Cab TD 4WD, gl56ab, double cab, air conditioning, leather seats, cd player, central locking, alloy wheels, 18 alloy wheel upgrade, climate controlled air conditioning, electric heated door mirrors, esp traction control, heated front windscreen, child locks, colour coding body, colour coding interior, computer, climate control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, front armrest, electrically adjustable seats, folding rear seats, headrests, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, side airbags, rear headrests, sports seats, insurance group:7, black, 27675 miles, £13990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

RANGER THUNDER, 143 bhp, double cab, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, alloy wheels, cat 1 alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, warranted mileage, 5 seater, brand new 09 -not pre-reg, please call steve wales in our commercial department, contract hire available from, black, 5 miles, £12999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER THUNDER AUTOMATIC, 1.8 LX 5dr, gy54lxc, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, child locks, cloth upholstery, climate control, colour coding body, colour coding interior, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, front armrest, electrically adjustable seats, folding rear seats, headrests, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, rear headrests, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, multi function steering wheel, power assisted steering, side airbags, radio/cd multichanger, spoiler, tinted glass, traction control, insurance group:8, black, 35087 miles, £4990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, alloy wheels, cat 1 alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, 2 seater, blue, 23 miles, £12990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, 5 seater, 20 alloy wheels please call steve wales in our commercial department, silver, 1005 miles, £13995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, 2 seater, blue, 8 miles, £14645, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER, TIPPER, ac58efwv, 143 ps, tipper, max weight 875 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, alloy wheels, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, 5 seater, silver, 16538 miles, £14995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER, Pick Up XLT Thunder Double Cab **AUTO + 20 ALLOY*, lv58kmz, 156 ps, double cab, air conditioning, alloy wheels, cd player, electric windows, full leather, rear park assist, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, pcp, phy lined, white, 19603 miles, £8495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

RANGER, Pick Up Regular TD 4WD, gl07tww, double cab, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, pcp, black, 150 miles, £10995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

RANGER, Pick Up XLT Double Cab TD 4WD, gl07tww, double cab, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, lwb, pcp, phy lined, white, 19603 miles, £8495, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

RANGER, Pick Up XLT Thunder Double Cab TD 4WD, gl56ab, double cab, air conditioning, leather seats, cd player, central locking, alloy wheels, 18 alloy wheel upgrade, climate controlled air conditioning, electric heated door mirrors, esp traction control, heated front windscreen, child locks, colour coding body, colour coding interior, computer, climate control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, front armrest, electrically adjustable seats, folding rear seats, headrests, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, radio, side airbags, rear headrests, sports seats, insurance group:7, black, 27675 miles, £13990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

RANGER THUNDER, 143 bhp, double cab, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, alloy wheels, cat 1 alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, 5 seater, brand new 09 -not pre-reg, please call steve wales in our commercial department, contract hire available from, black, 5 miles, £12999, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER THUNDER AUTOMATIC, 1.8 LX 5dr, gy54lxc, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti theft system, central locking, child locks, cloth upholstery, climate control, colour coding body, colour coding interior, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, front armrest, electrically adjustable seats, folding rear seats, headrests, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, rear headrests, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, multi function steering wheel, power assisted steering, side airbags, radio/cd multichanger, spoiler, tinted glass, traction control, insurance group:8, black, 35087 miles, £4990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, 2 seater, blue, 23 miles, £12990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, 2 seater, blue, 8 miles, £14645, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp+leasing, warranty, 3 seater, white, 20432 miles, £14990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, phy lined, white, 26072 miles, £7499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, phy lined, white, 26072 miles, £7499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, phy lined, white, 26072 miles, £7499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, phy lined, white, 26072 miles, £7499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, phy lined, white, 26072 miles, £7499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

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RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, phy lined, white, 26072 miles, £7499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

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RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, phy lined, white, 26072 miles, £7499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, phy lined, white, 26072 miles, £7499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

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RANGER WILDTRAK, 156 ps, max weight 2985 kg, max pulling weight 3000 kg, cat alarm, reverse parking sensors, finance available, full dealer facilities, high roof, hp+leasing, lwb, phy lined, white, 26072 miles, £7499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

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Senior & General Appointments

48-51

Abbey Court School
"WE GROW PEOPLE"

Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff efforts, work and achievement are celebrated.

We are currently looking for a

TEACHER FOR PUPILS WITH SEVERE AND PROFOUND LEARNING DIFFICULTIES TO COMMENCE SEPT 2009

MPS + 2 SEN Points + TLR 2C (with previous experience) £2422

The school is located in pleasant surroundings and we have educational resources of enviable proportions. This post would suit newly qualified teachers or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN. Comprehensive induction and training will be provided.

Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school welcomed

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Closing Date: 8th May 2009

For further details and a job description, please contact Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent, ME2 3SP. (Tel: 01634 338224), stating the position for which you are applying.

Sevenoaks District Partnership Group [SDPG] are recruiting a Part Time Administrator / Coordinator

Sevenoaks District Partnership Group [SDPG] is the organisation through which people with a learning disability are enabled to take control of their lives and be included as part of our community.

Do you have the skills and experience to support us?

Salary £ negotiable for 2-3 days / week [+ health cover] One year contract
Post is subject to Enhanced CRB disclosure and references.

We are open to:

- flexible hours, job share, term-time working
- employed or self employed
- secondment from other statutory, commercial or community organisations
- applications from disabled people

For details or to apply, email: Rob@SevenoaksDPG.co.uk Tel: 07941 388852
Closing date: 1 May Interviews: 11-13 May

BeneCare Fostering
GENUINE OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

- CAN YOU PROVIDE A SAFE AND CARING HOME FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN?
- ARE YOU AN EXPERIENCED CARER LOOKING FOR A NEW CHALLENGE OR CHANGE?

BENECARE OFFERS

- EXCELLENT RATES OF PAY
- REAL SUPPORT AND RESPITE SYSTEMS FOR CARERS
- EXCELLENT TRAINING AND GUIDANCE FROM OUR QUALIFIED & VERY EXPERIENCED TEAM

We would love to hear from you if you are interested or involved in Fostering and would like additional information.
Please contact: 01227 362510 or Email: info@benecarefostering.co.uk
Web: www.benecarefostering.co.uk

Community Drug Workers
£21,306 – £27,573 + ESSENTIAL CAR USER ALLOWANCE OF UP TO £1,095

EAST/WEST KENT AND MEDWAY

KCA (UK) is an expanding and vibrant organisation providing a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services in the drug, alcohol and mental health sectors.

Could you help chaotic injecting drug users to stabilise their use and begin shaping better lifestyles? It is a big challenge that will see you work closely with medical staff as you deliver assessment and key worker support to people accessing the substitute prescribing service.

Significant experience of working with individuals with drug related problems is desirable, along with a qualification to diploma level in a relevant area – nursing, counselling or social work for example. As for your future, there is the opportunity to make a huge impact on people's lives and help grow our services into the future working as part of a multi-disciplinary team.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from <http://www.kca.org.uk/pages/vacancies.html> or email recruitment@kca.org.uk Alternatively, write to KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT or call 01795 590635. Please quote ref: 560.

Closing date: 1 May 2009.
Interview date: 15 May 2009 in Maidstone.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse. Charity no: 292824.

www.kca.org.uk

KOS Media, publisher of the award-winning Kent on Sunday, the Saturday Observer, and our midweek titles and associated websites, has a vacancy for a

Freelance sub-editor

We are currently looking for a freelance sub-editor for three days work a week. Candidates must have excellent QuarkXpress skills and be competent at using Adobe Photoshop.

You will be able to spot a typo at 100 paces and be able to write attention-grabbing headlines.

- To apply, send a CV and covering letter to: Dave Hobday, Head of Subbing or email dave.hobday@kosmedia.co.uk.

Award winning publications www.kentnews.co.uk

KOS Media
Apple Barn,
Hythe Road, Smeeth
Kent TN25 6SR

RESTAURANT MANAGER

The opportunity has arisen for an experienced and highly motivated Restaurant Manager to work in Kent's premier Fish and Seafood Restaurant. Our ideal candidate must have exacting standards with ability to interact with guests. A willingness to train and develop staff and a good knowledge of wine and beverage service is essential.

Please send your CV with covering letter to Mr Stephen Taylor, General Manager at Eastwell Manor to: stephentaylor@eastwellmanor.co.uk
Eastwell Park, Boughton Lees, Ashford, Kent TN25 4HR
Tel: 01233 213000 Fax: 01233 635530
www.eastwellmanor.co.uk
Email: Enquiries@eastwellmanor.co.uk

MAIDSTONE
Good Traditional Cook required

Full time and Part time cook required at our Day Centres. Part time required to work 3 days a week, 9am to 2pm Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays plus occasional agreed extra days to cover for staff annual leave.

Are you capable of:
Cooking up to 40 meals plus per day • Planning menus

And have:
Good basic cooking skills in traditional style meals
Food hygiene certificate (training can be provided) • Full clean driving licence

RGN/SEN Footnurses required with current NMC essential
Must be willing to travel throughout Borough of Maidstone. Full driving license and own transport essential. Training provided.

Remuneration for each client treated will be paid plus travelling expenses.

For application form etc please phone 01622 753618, or visit 11 Mill Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6XW

Both positions will be subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

BRANCH MANAGEMENT STAFF
Kent and East Sussex area.
Salary negotiable dependant on experience

We are Kent's largest independent motor factor with 6 branches across the South East with 25 years experience of supplying car parts to garages and workshops. We are shortly looking to expand our branch network and are therefore looking to employ branch management staff in the Kent and East Sussex area.

As a member of our branch management team, you will be responsible for managing all aspects of a branch, such as overseeing all branch staff, ensuring customer needs are met effectively and efficiently by both delivery and counter sales, and achieving set targets for profit and sales. Previous experience of managing a motor factor branch is essential. Candidates will need to prove they have extensive management experience within the motor factor trade.

All correspondence will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

To apply, please forward your CV to humanresources@scmf.co.uk or alternatively call Peta Budd on 0208 308 6812.

Closing date for applications: 28th April 2009

The smart way to find your next job **JobsforKent.co.uk**



Become A Book-Keeper
Sage Accounting & Sage Payroll
Various course dates & Times
Contact: 01227 774808 and Quote ref: KOS BAB

C&H
Require
Part-time Coffee Shop Assistants
with Excellent cooking, hygiene and customer service skills. 5 days per week.
Call Coffee Shop Manager Tel: 01227 459760

TEACHERS!
ARE YOU EARNING £132 PER DAY?
IF NOT, CALL US! 01634 817575

EDUCATION SENSE

Teachers Needed

Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

- ✓ Daily/weekly/termly supply opportunities
- ✓ Excellent rates of pay – paid weekly
- ✓ Free in-service training and CPD assessment
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Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

To find out more information and to register with us, please call us free on:

0800 731 6871

or e-mail:

jean.read@capita.co.uk

Committed to equal opportunities

CAPITA

EDUCATION RESOURCING

(Agy)

The Best Connection
EMPLOYMENT GROUP

Class 2 drivers for food delivery, 20 - 30 drops. Fridge & Multidrop experience preferred. Based out of Aylesford.

Class 1 & 2 drivers for drinks delivery. Previous dray experience preferred. Based in Crayford & Faversham

PCV drivers for general coach work.

Private hire, Rail replacement, School runs. Based in Gravesend, Medway, Maidstone & Aylesford. £9.00/hr, guaranteed 8hrs pay.

For information on these and other vacancies please call **Andy** or **Alex** on 01622 664999



Chart Hills Golf Club

Biddenden,

Require a Sous Chef & Chef to Partie to become part of the team at this celebrated golf course. Excellent rates of pay for the right applicant. Apply in the first instance by sending your CV and covering letter to head chef Jason Wearn by: email: kitchen@charthills.co.uk phone: 01580 292222 or post to: Chart Hills Golf Club, Weeks Lane, Biddenden, Kent TN278JX. References will be required.

leaderboard

DELCE JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Tideway, Rochester, Kent Telephone 01634 845242

MIDDAY MEALS SUPERVISOR

An opportunity has arisen for a responsible and reliable person to join Delce Junior School as a Midday Meals Supervisor. The post involves the supervision of pupils during the lunch break ensuring their safety and welfare, that good standards of behaviour are observed and that meals are taken in an orderly manner.

The contracted hours are 5 hours 50 minutes per week, term time only. The rate of pay is currently £6.20 per hour.

Application forms and Job Descriptions may be collected from the school office between 9.00am and 4.00pm, alternatively, they can be mailed upon receipt of an A4 S.A.E. (48p postage is required).

Offers of appointment will only be made subject to a clear Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure and satisfactory references.

The closing date for the receipt of applications in respect of this post is Friday 24th April 2009

To advertise in this section **01303 817040**

Geering & Colyer
Countrywide

Trainee Sales Negotiators

Experienced Sales Negotiators / Managers

Established in 1910 Geering and Colyer is a traditional Estate Agent with traditional values with 8 offices based around Kent.

Due to a huge increase in business in 2009 we are now looking to expand our sales teams in Central & East Kent.

If you are a high calibre individual with a 'can-do' attitude, good communication skills and of smart appearance then contact us to find out more about our structured career path, extensive training and our exciting working environment.

To find out more please contact:
Human Resources

0800 376 7890

or email your CV to: shelley.metson@kent.cwea.co.uk

Mann Countrywide is an equal opportunities employer

Maidstone Mediation

- charity no 1052104

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

We are looking to recruit a **VICTIM LIAISON OFFICER** to work within the Folkestone Youth Offending Team helping victims of crime access Restorative Justice processes.

Starting salary **19,500pa**

- Own car essential (mileage allowance paid)

The post holder will need to have good communication and IT skills. Training will be provided.

For an application pack please email mediationscheme@btconnect.com

Manager - County Youth Choirs

Working for Kent's renowned music provider Kent Music this is an exciting post which will require someone with a musical background and management experience to manage the day to day operation of the County Choirs.

The post is permanent and it is expected the post holder will work a minimum of 780 hours per annum. Please see our website for full details of salary and hours.

For more information please contact Denise Milne at Kent Music on 01622 358435 or dmilne@kent-music.com or go to our website: www.kent-music.com to download an application form.

Deadline for applications 1st May with interviews the following week.

KOS Media is a highly successful newspaper publisher within Kent, that has received many awards from the newspaper industry for the innovative Kent on Sunday, Kent on Saturday and numerous mid-week newspapers.

We now have vacancies for experienced

Mac Operators

We are looking for experienced, confident, self-motivated team players who wish to gain experience within the industry to further their career.

The individual must have relevant Mac experience including knowledge of Quark, Photoshop and Illustrator. The ability to touch-type would be advantageous.

The candidate should be able to work under pressure, meet strict deadlines and be eager to work within a team environment to ensure the smooth operation of our fast-paced production department. Hours will be variable.

To apply, send a CV and covering letter to: Personnel
KOS Media
Apple Barn
Hythe Road
Smeeth
Kent TN25 6SR
or email: personnel@kosmedia.co.uk

RECEPTIONIST

MotorSport Vision, the UK's largest motor racing circuit operator owning Brands Hatch, Cadwell Park, Oulton Park, Snetterton and Bedford Autodrome, is currently seeking an efficient, customer focused Receptionist to join the team at Brands Hatch.

The successful candidate will be responsible for welcoming all visitors to the Brands Hatch Circuit and answering all incoming calls, ensuring they are dealt with professionally and politely at all times. In addition they will provide the venue with administrative support, as directed by the Group Head of Sales and Marketing.

Highly organised, they will have the ability to work under their own initiative, have a smart, professional appearance and a friendly outgoing manner.

A minimum of two good A-levels or equivalent are required, along with an excellent telephone manner, written and spoken English and a working knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel. Knowledge of and enthusiasm for motorsport would be an advantage.

Please apply in writing, including salary expectations, notice period and current CV, to:

Katie Dickens, Group Human Resources Officer,
MotorSport Vision Limited, Brands Hatch Circuit, Fawkham, Longfield, Kent DA3 8NG
or email katie.dickens@motorsportvision.co.uk





Join Our Team

If you have more than 5 years experience in estate agency and can demonstrate a determination to succeed contact us today

on 0845 463 2896

or email info@kea.org.uk

Foster carers wanted

The Caldecott Foundation, which cares for vulnerable children who have experienced extreme trauma and disruption, seeks dedicated and highly motivated foster carers. Comprehensive training and support given, plus excellent rates of pay. Contact Jamie Bromfield or Erica Eversfield on 01303 815648 or email fostering@caldecottfoundation.co.uk

The Caldecott Foundation, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SP.



Ursuline College

225 Canterbury Road
Westgate-on-Sea
Kent CT8 8LX

Phone 01843 834431 Fax 01843 835365



Specialist Sports College

Roman Catholic Co-educational Voluntary Aided
Comprehensive 780 on roll

Teaching Assistant

30 hours per week, Term Time only
(38 weeks per year)

Kent Scheme Payscale 3, Points 7-11
(Hourly rate £7.30-£8.28)

Required immediately to support students with Special Educational Needs. Applicants must have a genuine concern for young people and should be able to support pupils up to GCSE level.

Experience may be an advantage. Flexibility, good communication skills and a sense of humour are essential.

The successful candidate will be required to undertake a CRB Enhanced Disclosure check prior to the start of employment.

Please apply in writing for an application pack at the above address to:

Mrs Angela Bamford, Director of Pastoral Care, or via email to: info1@ursuline.kent.sch.uk

Closing date: Tuesday 28th April 2009

Interviews to be held Friday 1st May 2009

Ursuline College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff/volunteers to share this commitment.

Dovetail Services (UK) Limited

CUSTOMER SERVICES REPRESENTATIVES

Salary circa £12,000 per annum plus opportunity to earn regular commission – Full and part time positions available

Dovetail Services are a Publishing and Subscriptions Company who work in partnership with a large number of clients including BBC Magazines and Dennis Publishing.

We are seeking Customer Service Representatives to fill both full and part time positions for our Call Centre operations based at Kent Science Park in Sittingbourne, Kent.

As a Customer Service representative, you will be responsible for answering incoming calls taking subscription orders, cross selling on a variety of magazine titles and dealing with queries in a pro active manner. You will need a confident and professional telephone manner with accurate keyboard skills. The ability to work under pressure and effectively deal with a variety of queries from customers, both internal and external, are essential for these positions.

If you are computer literate with a willingness to learn then we would like to hear from you.

We offer excellent training and development opportunities for the right people have an active social club, Company contributory pension scheme and other benefits.

If you would like to apply for these vacancies, please forward your C.V to julie.raife@dovetailservices.com or alternatively please send it to our **HR Department**

Dovetail Services (UK) Limited, Kent Science Park, 800 Guillet Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8GU

Closing date for applications is 4th May 2009



dovetail



Aerospace Tooling Ltd have an enviable reputation designing and manufacturing tooling and machine tools for industry. As a result of continued expansion we have the following vacancies.

Sales Manager • Commercial Manager Estimator • Design Manager Design Engineers

All roles offer competitive packages. Please submit your CV to Andy Daintree. E-mail: A.daintree@aerospace-tooling.co.uk Tel: 01634 233 216

Waitress required

for family run village restaurant.

Silver service preferred but not essential as training can be given.

Own transport necessary.

2 or 3 evenings per week - Age 25 plus

Phone Martins Restaurant 01227 750304.



34 Dumpton Park Drive
Broadstairs, Kent
CT10 1BY

All appointments are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure CRB check

All shortlisted applicants will be expected to visit the school before interview.

Bradstow School is an equal opportunities employer

In addition to salary, the benefits package includes Benenden membership.

Creative, committed, enthusiastic and resilient

TEACHERS

do amazing things at BRADSTOW SCHOOL

If you would like to join them from September 2009 to August 2010, we are confident that:-

- It will probably be the hardest teaching job you will ever have.
- It will certainly be the most satisfying.

Bradstow is an exciting and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs.

We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, many of whom have associated challenging behaviours. We have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

Professional and personal qualities in this specialised and challenging field are very important. Experience, whilst helpful is not essential. Extensive and on-going training and support of all staff

is at the core of the success of the school. All teachers are fully trained and supported in

TEACCH, Prospect, PECS and other Augmentative Communication Systems as well as being provided with other specialist skills. You will also be supported and encouraged to further develop your skills and knowledge by undertaking further Degree and Diploma studies.

OFSTED 2009 said,

"Bradstow is an outstanding school"

"The curriculum and the quality of teaching and support are exceptional"

"It is to the tremendous credit of a highly skilled and well-qualified team of teachers and support staff that they enable pupils to overcome and cope with the substantial learning and emotional barriers that they face"

"Bradstow is a very complex organization and a centre of excellence in its own field"

If you would like to join our team, and help us to continue to transform the lives of these children and their families, give us a call. Be in no doubt, this is a challenging working environment for which you will need to be committed to the needs of the child and the school. In return we offer a highly rewarding and satisfying career, with quite a bit of fun thrown in as well!

For SEN specialists, the second SEN point will be available.

For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk.

Please note that CV's will not be considered.

Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, 8th May 2009.

Dover · online · Calais

e-Commerce Marketing Executive

THE ROLE

This is an exciting, varied role for an experienced Marketing Executive to work in a fun, friendly team. You need to be passionate about online marketing and taking an active role in all e-Commerce Marketing projects with the team.

The main responsibilities include:

- Maintenance of our website (ensuring it is always kept up to date) plus testing of new developments;
- Search Engine Optimisation and Pay Per Click activity management;
- Affiliate and partner relationship development and management;
- Creating and managing domains and microsites for the SeaFrance portfolio; and
- Assisting with the continued development of the Customer Relationship Management Programme.

Key to this role is the ability to understand and influence consumers through online marketing to bring them through to the website and encourage them to book. Other areas of responsibility include running, updating and circulating reports for activities, liaising with external agencies and internal departments to ensure we maximise our revenue and co-ordinate activity.

THE PERSON

We're looking for someone who is dynamic, has a creative flair and can provide evidence of delivering in a fast-paced and focused online environment. Online Marketing experience is essential and must include an in-depth understanding of Search Engines and website usability. Knowledge of html and content management systems is preferable.

You must be educated to a minimum of A-level standard and have a CIM qualification or equivalent. A good command of the English language for writing copy is required as well as direct marketing experience to support our busy Marketing department.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

A competitive salary; 23 days holiday per year rising to 26 days, plus statutory holidays; contributory pension; life assurance cover and concessionary travel benefits.

To apply, please send your CV and covering letter detailing salary expectations to Human Resources, SeaFrance Ltd, Whitfield Court, Honeywood Close, Whitfield, Kent, CT16 3PX or email recruitment@seafrance.fr

Closing Date: 1 May 2009

seafrance.com

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

KOS MEDIA (PUBLISHING) LTD

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Advertisements will be accepted only on the express condition that the advertiser warrants that the advertisement does not in any way contravene any existing legislation and in particular the Trade and Description Act 1968 and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
2. It is the responsibility of all advertisers to ensure that all advertising meets all forms of government legislation and KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (the "media owner") takes no responsibility for liability in respect of the content of our media.
3. All advertisements are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
4. All rates within the annual advertising agreement will be rate protected for 12 months from the first date of publication under the signed agreement.
5. Any unsuitable material posted on any website belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the advertiser or any associated third party will be removed or refused. All passes and user names supplied to the advertiser by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in relation to the use of our platform will be deleted via the media owner's online administration tool will be the responsibility of the advertiser. The advertiser indemnifies KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd against any damages as a result of misuse of these privileges by either the advertiser or any third party given password privileges by the advertiser.
6. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to change passwords intermittently to ensure the overall and ongoing security of its websites within the public domain.
7. Copyright and other intellectual property rights in the various forms of media, print, online and moving film owned by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must have been sought, verified or paid for by the advertiser where applicable Approval or permissions must have been given by any potential beneficial owner voice-over or music. The advertiser must be able to verify any statements or claims (promotional or otherwise) in relation to their products/services promoted within any of the media offerings belonging to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd.

8. Where shrinkage of an advertisement occurs for whatever reason, the advertiser will be charged to the nearest full centimetre where it relates to the media owner's printed publications. This will NOT apply to full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
9. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to omit or refuse any advertisement/commercial/web content without notice or explanation. In these terms the word "advertiser" shall be construed to include any person or organisation whose name or logo appears on behalf of the media owner.
10. A guarantee of insertion cannot be given as the media owners shall not be liable for any loss or damage caused by any error inaccuracy within your marketing content. In no case shall the total liability of the media owner for any error or omission exceed the price charged by the media owners for that advertising.
11. No liability is accepted for any loss or damage alleged to have arisen through delay in forwarding replies to Box numbers, however caused, nor for the loss or damage to any artwork supplied.
12. Please note that any enquiry, in your media messages with KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be written in writing to the accounts department within 10 days of Publishing.
13. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions made on their website by the advertiser.

14. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd has the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership without notice should the advertiser deliberately publish out of date material or content on any of the media owner's online digital platforms. KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd will seek to recover, in full, all outstanding invoices in relation to the signed annual membership as a result of the advertiser's negligence in this regard and reserves the right to cancel the advertiser's annual membership if the advertiser fails to pay any amounts due.

15. Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.

16. A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media (standard effective date of advertising) from 20th June 2009 will be recalculated and applied accordingly in line with KOS Media (standard effective date of cancellation) effective July 2009-June 2009 and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discounts will be repudiated and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the cancellation. Any cancellation made after the start date of the commitment will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.

17. Seasonal contracts. Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be booked in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.

18. All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first come, first served basis.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Start-Up Stars search

HSBC is calling on all new companies to enter this year's Start-Up Stars Awards.

These are aimed at the UK's most promising start-up businesses less than three years old and the entrepreneurs behind them. The deadline is this Saturday.

It culminates with a black-tie event at London's InterContinental in November, when the UK's top new businesses will hope to be crowned Start-Up Star 2009 and walk away with a cheque for £25,000, courtesy of HSBC.

There will also be £10,000 cheques for the best new green business, best new business set up by a graduate, and best new business achieving export success.

Google will be offering £40,000 of free services, to be shared between the ten national finalists and each of the category winners. For details, go to www.startupstars.hsbc.co.uk.

After hours chamber

KENT Invicta Chamber of Commerce has introduced events to enable businesspeople to meet on an informal basis.

The After Hours Club will be held at venues convenient for all areas covered by the chamber – Ashford, Canterbury, Maidstone and west Kent.

The club was launched at Londa Bistro in Station Road, Ashford, and will be held there on the first Tuesday of each month. Events are free and open from 6pm.

Meetings will be held for Canterbury businesses at Howfield Manor, Charlham Hatch, on the second Tuesday each month; and at Russell Hotel, Maidstone, on the third Tuesday. A west Kent venue has yet to be finalised. For details, phone 01233 503838.

Free half-day workshops

A BIG talking point at the Kent 2020 Vision exhibition was Business Link's 'health checks', looking at businesses and identifying possible changes.

Now the service is running free boost your sales and profits half-day workshops at the Holiday Inn, Rochester, this Friday; the Village Hotel, Maidstone, on Monday; and Hall Place, Canterbury, on Thursday, May 14, at 8.30am and 2pm each day.

Details on 0845 600 9006.

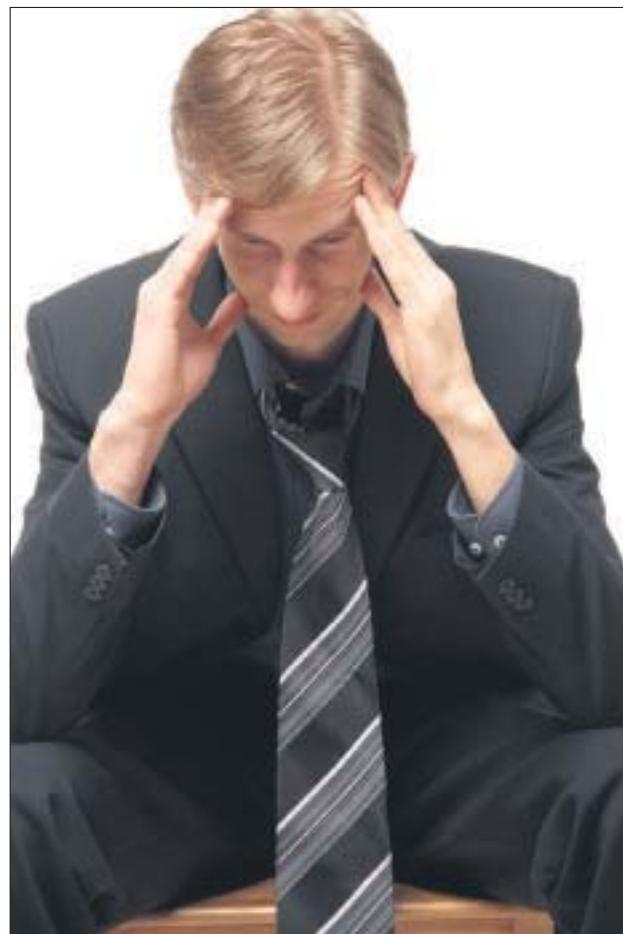
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Kent 2020 Vision speaker Kriss Akabusi talks to Julie Maddocks. Search 'Kriss'

New orders provide respite for debtors



WORRYING TIMES: But new debt relief orders offer an alternative to bankruptcy

HUNDREDS of people in Kent could turn to new debt relief orders (DROs) in their first year, if present trends continue.

The most recent official personal insolvency data for the county show 487 took the step in the last three months of 2008 – a rise of a third compared with the same quarter in 2007.

Now business services giant KPMG is predicting personal insolvencies will hit record levels as DROs allow consumers with debts of less than £15,000, and minimal assets or surplus income, to write them off without going for a full-blown bankruptcy.

They came into action early this month. Mark Sands, director of personal insolvency, said: "In our view, DROs, together with the expected increase in unemployment, are likely to lead to record levels of personal insolvency – more than 150,000 – in 2009."

"While consumers will fight to keep their jobs and their family homes, for those who lose both there is often little reason for someone with debts not to declare themselves bankrupt.

"Now they have the alternative of a DRO. We expect bankruptcies and DROs to form an increasing proportion of personal insolvencies as individual voluntary arrangements (IVAs) – where the consumer usually commits to a five-year payment plan – become increasingly unattractive to those who have lost their job or home."

KPMG data show the average debt owed by someone entering an IVA in the last quarter of 2008 was £47,800 and that in the same

period more than 500 people entered into an IVA with debts of more than £100,000.

Mr Sands said: "Bankruptcy is typically used by those with lower debts and minimal assets, but many who previously would have gone bankrupt will instead seek a DRO. Also, many people previously excluded from the personal insolvency system will seek a DRO, swelling numbers of personal insolvents to record levels."

Two advantages of DROs over bankruptcy are:

- Use of intermediaries (such as Citizens Advice) to make the application rather than presenting papers to a court.
- A cost of £90, which is less than one-fifth of the cost of making yourself bankrupt.

Mr Sands said: "Many people in debt suffer stress and anxiety."

"Resolving debt problems without the need to go to court and at a lower cost will be a great relief and will make personal insolvency accessible to many previously unable to access bankruptcy due to the cost and were put off by the complexity and stigma."

Concerns have been raised that DROs will be abused, but Mr Sands said: "If a debtor lies about their circumstances the DRO may be revoked and the debts pursued once more, if it becomes clear they did not meet all the criteria."

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SPOT ON: Matt Solly's penalty saved Chatham

Winning penalty keeps the Chats stats strong

Chatham Town 1 Waltham Abbey 0

A MATT Solly penalty kept Chatham Town's strong finish to the season on track as they beat play-off bound Waltham Abbey at Maidstone Road.

The midfielder struck on 65 minutes after Byron Walker had been felled in the penalty area. Solly had the chance to double his tally ten minutes from time when Justin Ascheri was fouled, but his second spot-kick was saved.

The victory extended the Chats' superb run to eight wins in an unbeaten run stretching to 11 games. It hauled them into the Ryman North's top half for the first time this season ahead of Saturday's final game at Potters Bar Town.

Town boss Steve Binks was pleased, but the run has only made him regret not hitting form earlier.

He said: "I'm absolutely delighted, we're 11 games unbeaten with eight wins in the run. We've taken 43 points from our last 21 games, double that across the season and we'd be in the top three. I don't want the season to finish at this rate. It's a real shame everything's coming together but we have run out of games."

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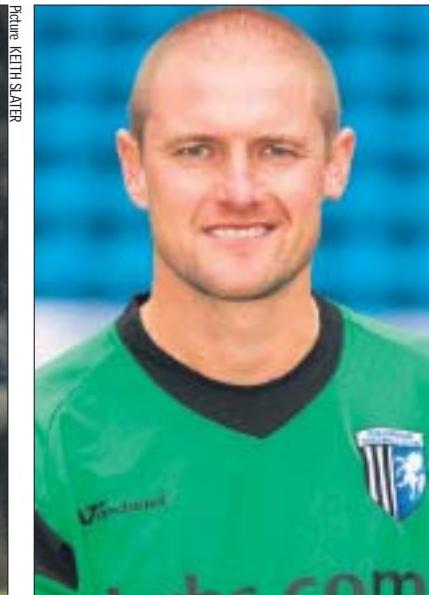
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Re-live all the action from the return of the Rallycross Championship at Lydden



PRICELESS: Mark McCammon's header was the difference between the sides on Saturday as Gillingham, helped by late saves from Simon Royce, beat Chesterfield



Picture: GOR KUPCO

Gills precious three points keeps play-off dream alive

MARK McCAMMON'S first half header was enough to beat Chesterfield and keep Gillingham in the hunt for an automatic promotion place.

Backed by an outstanding defensive display, Gills held on for an eighth away triumph of the campaign on Saturday which almost certainly guarantees them a play-off place with two games remaining.

Gills boss Mark Stimson was delighted with the way his side dug in to grind out a precious three points.

He said: "Whenever you come here it's going to be a physical battle and in the game earlier in the season we found that out. We had to be ready for the physical side, but also made sure that when we got the ball we created a couple of chances and I was pleased with that as well.

"I'm really proud of them, as a manager you can only ask that your players go out there and give 100 per cent. They do that and they also do it on the training ground and now they are getting their rewards. If we continue to do that,

FOOTBALL

■ BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Chesterfield 0



Gillingham 1

McCammon 22

Gillingham starting XI



Subs used: Bentley (Wright 70) Oli (McCammon 70) Southall (Jackson 90)

Simon Royce got down bravely to make a crucial block.

The goalkeeper made another superb stop late on as Gills hung on. They need just one point from the last two games to be sure of a play-off place, while three points separates Stimson's side from the automatic promotion spots.

Gills play Bury at Priestfield next Saturday in their final home game of the regular season.

Log on to www.yourmedway.co.uk from 2pm on Saturday for updates from Gills' game against Bury.



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Medway clinch promotion for third season in a row

RUGBY

■ BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Medway 28 Cranbrook 14

MEDWAY held their nerve on the final day of the season to seal a third successive promotion.

Rob Ellis scored two tries as the home side built an 18-0 lead by half-time and Kevin Kimble's second half score sparked the celebrations among the big crowd at Priestfields.

Head coach Taff Gwilliam has overseen the club's progress from Kent 3 to the London leagues in three seasons and lavished praise on his squad.

"We are truly delighted," he said. "I don't know what the history is and if it's been done before, but three consecutive titles is a magnificent achievement. I think it's the best of the three because each year it gets harder as you come up against better, more organised teams. We are developing and doing it quickly."

Crucially Medway welcomed back six players from injury to bolster their ranks for the title decider. The hosts played into a strong wind in the first half but it failed to trouble Glen Wadsworth, who kicked two difficult penalties to put them 6-0 up.



PARTY TIME: Kevin Kimble dives over for a crucial try as Medway sealed third successive league title on Saturday

Ellis then scored two almost identical tries after good work from the forwards to put Medway in control at the break.

Kimble crashed over after a spell of sustained pressure early in the second half and Wadsworth's conversion made it 25-0. Cranbrook briefly threatened to spoil the party with two tries of their own, but a Wadsworth drop goal made the game safe.

The promotion lifts Medway out of the Kent leagues and into the London divisions alongside

teams like Folkestone and Bromley. Despite the rapid rise, Gwilliam believes his squad have what it takes to succeed next season.

He said: "I will sit down with the captain and look at where we need to strengthen. We have a young developing squad which is growing in stature and the really pleasing thing is we are creating our own strength in depth from our youth set-up. We will be competitive next year, we won't be there to make up the numbers."

Picture ALAN BOYNE



TEAM TALK

with Gills skipper
BARRY FULLER

'A top three finish is still a possibility'

AUTOMATIC promotion was the aim at the start of the season and with two games to go all of us believe we still have a great chance of bouncing straight back to League One.

Saturday's game against Bury will be like a cup final for us. There's always an extra buzz at the last home game of the season with a big crowd and with a top three finish still a possibility, it should be a special atmosphere at Priestfield. With everything that's at stake it's probably our biggest game of the season.

If we can win it would bring us level with Bury and set up a cracking last game of the season at Rochdale. Hopefully a couple of the other sides above us will drop points this weekend and then we'll be in a great position.

Whatever happens we are hitting form at the right time and we showed all the qualities you need at this time of the season to beat Chesterfield on Saturday.

It wasn't the prettiest game of the season but we probably started better than we have away from home for a very long time. We got ourselves in front with Mark [McCammon's] goal and were strong enough to keep a clean sheet.

It's great to see Mark coming into some form. It took him a long time to get a run of games because of all his injuries but he's a great weapon for us. He could be key in the last couple of games.

To be fair to Chesterfield they put us under a lot of pressure in the second half but Roycey pulled off a couple of great saves. The only disappointing thing was hearing all the top sides also won, but all we can do is keep picking up the points. Bring on Bury.

LEAGUE TABLES

COCA-COLA LEAGUE TWO

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Brentford	43	21	16	6	+27	79
2 Exeter City	44	21	12	11	+14	75
3 Wycombe Wanderers	43	19	17	7	+21	74
5 Gillingham	44	20	11	13	+2	71
6 Rochdale	44	19	12	13	+12	69
7 Shrewsbury Town	44	16	17	11	+16	65
8 Chesterfield	44	16	15	13	+8	63
9 Dagenham & Redbridge	43	17	11	15	+20	62
10 Morecambe	43	15	17	11	+2	62
11 Bradford City	44	16	13	15	-6	61
12 Darlington (10)	44	19	12	13	+18	59
13 Lincoln City	44	14	16	14	+3	58
14 Rotherham United (17)	43	20	12	11	+17	55
15 Aldershot Town	44	13	11	20	-23	50
16 Barnet	44	11	15	18	-16	48
17 Accrington Stanley	44	12	11	21	-17	47
18 Notts County	44	10	14	20	-18	44
19 Port Vale	44	12	8	24	-23	44
20 Macclesfield Town	44	12	7	25	-33	43
21 Bournemouth (17)	44	15	12	17	+3	40
22 Grimsby Town	44	9	13	22	-37	40
23 Chester City	44	8	12	24	-37	36
R Luton Town (30)	43	13	16	14	-4	25

RYMAN DIVISION ONE NORTH

(before last night's game Redbridge v Concord Rangers)						
1 East Thurrock United	41	30	5	6	+63	95
2 Aveley	41	28	9	4	+40	93
3 Brentwood Town	41	26	9	6	+45	87
10 Tilbury	41	16	9	16	+9	57
11 Chatham Town	41	17	6	18	-3	57
12 Cheshunt	41	17	5	19	-8	56
20 Waltham Forest	41	9	7	25	-41	34
R Witham Town	41	6	8	27	-66	26
R Hillingdon Borough	41	3	4	34	-73	13

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION TABLE

1 VCD Athletic	30	20	4	6	+42	64
2 Hythe Town	31	20	4	7	+29	64
3 Holmesdale	31	18	7	6	+29	61
4 Herne Bay	31	19	3	9	+19	60
5 Greenwich Borough	31	19	4	8	+13	60
6 Faversham Town	31	19	2	10	+42	59
7 Erith Town	31	13	10	8	+19	51
8 Erith & Belvedere	30	14	5	11	+14	47
9 Croydon	31	14	4	13	+17	46
10 Tunbridge Wells	31	13	51	3	+3	44
11 Norton Sports	31	12	4	15	-12	40
12 Deal Town	30	10	8	12	+6	38
13 Slade Green	31	11	4	16	-10	37
14 Sevenoaks Town	31	9	4	18	-22	31
15 Beckenham Town	30	8	3	19	-21	27
16 Lordswood	31	6	3	22	-35	21
17 Sporting Bengal	32	0	0	2	-134	0

FIXTURES (Saturday): Coca-Cola League Two: Gillingham v Bury; Ryman Division One North: Potters Bar Town v Chatham Town; Premier: Lordswood v Erith Town

Final penalty woe for Mos as the Lions roar to victory

ICE HOCKEY

Invicta Dynamos 2 Nottingham Lions 2

(Lions win on penalties)

A WEEK after winning the National Final on penalties Invicta Dynamos suffered shootout heartbreak as they lost the play-off final to Nottingham Lions.

The Mos began their climax to the season at the Coventry Sky Dome badly and were 2-0 down early in the first period before Andy Smith pulled a goal back. Martin Melichercik levelled the game in the second period with the final goal in regular time.

With the scores still locked at 2-2 after overtime, the final game of the season went to penalty shots. Elliot Andrews and Martin Melichercik missed but Andy Smith held his nerve to take the shootout into sudden death, but the Lions kept their cool to lift the trophy.

The Mos had reached the final with a 6-3 win against Bracknell Hornets in the semi-final 24 hours earlier. They took control of the game early on, with Smith, Melichercik and Andrews all on target in the first period. Lewis Burke and Grant Baxter made it 5-0 before Bracknell hit back.

With the score 5-2 the Mos appeared to score but the officials waved play on and the Hornets controversially scored again. Melichercik settled any nerves in the third period to see the Mos through to the final.

Despite the loss on penalties it remained a successful season for the Mos, who won both the South and National League titles.



Picture GUY KIRK

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Mark Stimson looks to the season run in and how Josh Wright can help them

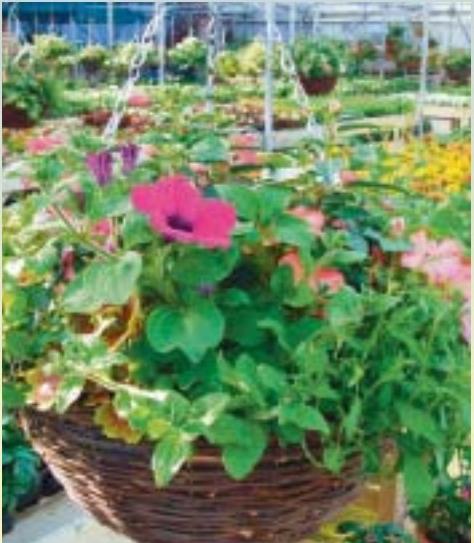
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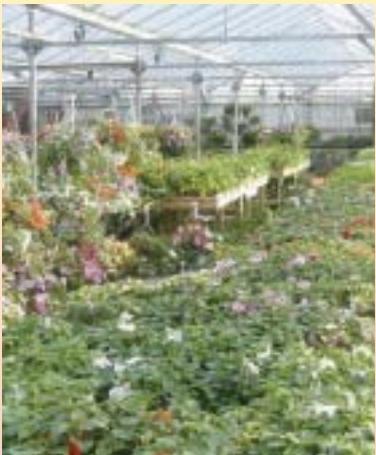
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